

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

CONVENTIONS.

THE holding of conventions for the furtherance of objects deemed to be of great and pressing importance is a peculiar feature of the present times—a novel species of mechanism, well adapted both in principle and in construction, and, in practice, found to be eminently successful, to impress truth upon the public mind, and to give an impulse in a definite direction to the national will. It is the modern mode of economising moral power. It holds in the world of social, political, or religious enterprise, a similar place to that of the heart in the corporeal system—and performs precisely analogous functions. It does not itself create vitality—but it collects it, distributes it, sends it, bounding and joyous, to all the extremities. Hence, all great undertakings carried on by men in earnest, have, in recent times, been forwarded by one or more conventions.

Dissenters, as such, have evinced no antipathy to this mode of advancing public questions—no distrust of the efficacy of this machinery for moving and turning the national mind. All the important conferences which have been held of late have numbered amongst its members a majority of dissenters. The anti-corn-law conference gathered at Manchester, about two years since, was composed, with scarcely an exception, of dissenting ministers. The anti-slavery, the peace, and the temperance conventions, were each attended by a goodly number of protestant nonconformists. It is quite clear, therefore, that to the thing itself there exist no serious objections. It is to be observed, moreover, that the object of such assemblies of delegates may be very mainly political in its bearing without throwing in the way of their success any obstacles deemed to be insurmountable—for, of all the conferences held in recent times, that which was constituted of nonconforming divines, touching the corn laws, was as thoroughly political as any, and much more so than most. We may, consequently, take it for granted that when the end in view is more directly religious—when the thing aimed at is simply to untwist Christianity from political associations, to rescue spiritual truth from the management of secular authority, to rebuke the usurpation, by statesmen, of divine prerogatives, and to take out of the hands of the church those weapons which the church's Lord has forbidden her to use, and which, like Saul's armour on David, serve only to impede her movements—it may be taken for granted, we think, that to a convention for such purposes, the men who met for the abolition of the corn and provision laws cannot oppose any valid objection.

It cannot now be urged with plausibility, much less with justice, that the present is not the time for venturing upon so decided a step. Let the truth of our English dramatist's sentiment be borne in mind:—

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Neglected, all the voyage of their lives
Is bound in shallows and in miseries."

Who can fail to perceive that the hour is come for embarking in the cause of separation of church and state? In Ireland, in Scotland, in Wales, in England, the tide of feeling is now at its flood. Every political agitation now rising has a main aspect towards ecclesiastical affairs. The mind of the country is awake to the subject. Events, as, week by week, they unfold themselves, invariably point in the direction of the state church. The mighty conflict which will distinguish the present century is evidently commencing. Already we have had a skirmish of outposts. Men on either side are preparing for the final struggle. Such being the case, the sooner we take up our position on the ground of intelligible principle, the better. At present, all is confusion, because all is planless. There is no want of materials, but they need to be fused into one whole.

The probable beneficial results of such a convention, we have touched upon heretofore; but the importance of the subject may well silence our fears of repeating what has already been advanced. Its effects, whether upon those who take part in it, or upon those who look upon it from afar, would be such as cannot well be overrated. The burning coals, when heaped together, glow with intenser heat than when divided. The shivered particles of a mirror, scattered over a given surface, may give

back, in sparkles, at innumerable points, the sunlight which falls upon them; but it is when combined into one consistent whole that they reflect the fullest blaze of radiance. When mind meets mind upon some common ground, and by actual communion they become one, each glows with augmented ardour—previous impressions are deepened—faith becomes more confiding—earnestness more earnest. It is a peculiarity of human nature, that when men, seeking some common object, meet together, the feelings of each will acquire the depth and intensity of all. The standard of sincerity, zeal, and devotedness, is, thenceforth, elevated, in respect of every individual, to the pitch which it attains in public assembly. And that which, thus naturally, improves itself, which stirs up its own fire, and blows it into a hotter flame, becomes, by the self-same process, immensely more potent in its influence upon others, radiates its light to a greater distance, and flashes truth upon consciences to which, otherwise, no beam would have succeeded in penetrating.

There exists, as we have said, and as everyone who watched the agitation against the Factories bill must have observed, an anti-state-church feeling diffused through the country, considerable both for its amount, for its intelligence, and for its zeal. The true policy of dissenters is to draw out this feeling—to combine it—to systematise it—to direct it. It wants to be gathered up and made to act in obedience to definite laws. Hitherto it has been little more than played with—taxed for the benefit of secretaries and agents. Much of it has grown suspicious, and not without reason. A convention would instantly evoke it from obscurity, organise its power, and employ it to practical uses. Let but a rallying point be proclaimed, and from every part of the country, talent, at present concealed, strength yet undeveloped, and earnestness scarcely known beyond its own immediate neighbourhood, would press towards it and unite. Courage and decision would soon take the place of timidity and vacillation. Indifference would be roused—slothfulness shamed into active exertion, and the work thus commenced with a solemnity becoming its vast magnitude, would be prosecuted with corresponding vigour.

Such a convention of nonconforming delegates we take to be the most natural and the most effective mode of commencing the campaign against church and state alliance. Several specific plans of carrying on the warfare have been suggested. Each might be subjected to fair discussion in the proposed assembly, and recommended or condemned, after manly deliberation, by a majority of the representative body. None of them will obtain any wide practical importance, otherwise than by some such means as we have here indicated. No suggestions, however wise, no modes of agitation, however apt, will be likely to succeed to any great extent, which do not start with the sanction of sufficient authority to silence the carplings of envy, and to defeat the opposition of the interested. Such moral authority a convention would possess and exercise—and having defined the object to be aimed at, set forth the reasons which should induce enterprise, and pointed out the methods by which the end may be most advantageously pursued, it might appoint an executive council to carry out its designs, pledged to summons at a specified period a second conference, to whom that council might render up its account and into whose hands it might resign its temporary trust. This plan is rational, feasible, business-like, equitable to all parties, and, in all respects, likely to prove successful. Perhaps we shall ere long see whether dissenters entertain any objections to it, and if so, what those objections are.

CHARACTERISTIC OBJECTS OF A STATE CHURCH.

"EVER since the reformation," says the *Morning Chronicle*, in an article which appeared in that journal on Monday last, "ever since the reformation the prevalence of pluralities has been the crying sin of that (the Irish) church. *The spiritual welfare of the people has been systematically sacrificed to the aggrandisement of particular families.*"

We suspect this confession to have slipped from the pen of the editor without observation, and to have reached the public only by concealing its real importance, beneath the ample skirts of zeal for party. It seems to suit whig policy just now to fling at the Irish ecclesiastical establishment the

heaviest stones which come readily to hand, and in the earnestness of that faction to reach office through some breach in the walls of the church, to forget that the denunciations which they hurl against it, recoil upon themselves. If it be true—and we do not doubt it—that in Ireland "the spiritual welfare of the people has been systematically sacrificed to the aggrandisement of particular families," with what consistency can they who make the assertion and urge the charge, declare their resolve to perpetuate the system which produces such results, and, instead of abolishing the nuisance, betake themselves to create a duplicate of it?

The tone of the *Morning Chronicle* would leave the reader to infer that "the prevalence of pluralities" is characteristic only of the established church in Ireland—and that in England "the aggrandisement of particular families" is never pursued to the sacrifice of "the spiritual welfare of the people." We really wonder at the boldness with which thorough-paced party journalists will occasionally presume on the ignorance or forgetfulness of their readers. Why, the very acts of parliament, which regulate the holding of pluralities in this country, show us that the vice is inherent in the system—that neither can it be got rid of, neither is it desired by the hierarchy that it should. Pluralities! Let the "Clerical Guide" be consulted—let the biographies of departed English bishops be read over—let the last wills and testaments of deceased ecclesiastical dignitaries be searched—let even the voice of notoriety be heard—and it will be seen that pluralism is far enough from being confined to the church in the sister kingdom.

"The spiritual welfare of the people" all statesmen know to be a merely subsidiary object of a state church—and if it be, in any way, promoted by it, it is promoted by accident rather than by design. When Mr Macauley, Lord John Russell, Mr Roebuck, and the *Morning Chronicle*, urged so strenuously the necessity of endowing the Romish priesthood, did the argument they employed show their concern that the people might be supplied with wholesome religious instruction? Not at all. It was altogether of the earth, earthy. It was wholly political, without even taking the semblance of spirituality. It sought advantage, not for the ruled, but for the ruler. It affected to benefit, not the people, but the state. It virtually put first and foremost the strengthening of the civil power, which is an equivalent expression for "the aggrandisement of particular families." As to "the spiritual welfare of the people"—bah! the hypocrisy of the whole thing turns us sick.

CHURCH RATE DEFEATED IN LEICESTER.—On Thursday morning a vestry meeting was held at St. Mary's Church, when the churchwardens proposed a church-rate of 3d. in the pound, declaring that a voluntary subscription, which they had tried for two or three years, had not sufficed even for the internal expenses, while the fabric is falling into decay, though the churchmen in the parish are numerous and wealthy. The vicar, the Rev. J. Brown, who was in the chair, having refused to put an amendment for adjourning the question for twelve months, a division was taken on the original motion, when eight persons voted for it, and the rest of the meeting, nearly 100 in number, against it. This is the eighth year that a church-rate has been refused in this extensive parish. There has been no poll since the first year, when the majority was too decisive for any further attempt.

CHURCH RATE SEIZURE.—The churchwardens of Hexham, Messrs S. French and T. Clementson, having instituted proceedings against Mr Joseph Ridley, for refusing to pay church rates, two policemen and Mr Wilson, the auctioneer, entered his house on Thursday evening last, and took away household goods, furniture, and books, to the amount of 7l. 10s. or 8l. The rate demanded was 2s. 6d.—*Gateshead Observer*.

CHURCH RATE SUPPER.—Messrs W. G. Tacey and Wm Ives of Wycombe, have issued a handbill, addressed to the Mayor, which contains the following facts:—

"A great portion of the last rate was exacted by threats; and although Mr James Williams distrained on one of us for only 2s., he thought proper to squander away £2 3s. 2d. of the parish money on suppers for the following very select party—A. Lane, Esq.; Mr James Spencer, vestry clerk; Mr James Walker Williams; Mr W. Spencer, parish clerk; Mr James Williams, churchwarden; and Mr Cooper. A gentleman who paid for his own supper was also present.

"Now, sir, as chairman of the vestry, you sanctioned this, you partook of it, and allowed your colleagues to pay for it out of the church rate, and afterwards, as

mayor, actually signed the church rate warrants of distress. Yes, five respected quakers (besides ourselves) were subjected to the indignity of having their houses entered, and their goods seized by a constable, as part payment of a public house supper for yourself and associates. We say part, as the whole amount levied from the quakers (£1 18s. 8d.) was not sufficient to pay the bill. You say, 'I hope them as puts the parish to expense will be lagged at last.' Our worthy curate has said, 'That a small room would contain all the Christians in Wycombe!' If so, ninety-five bottles of wine, at 4s., is certainly a most liberal allowance for them.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Bread and wine..... | 19 | 10 | 0 |
| Visitation expenses | 9 | 11 | 9 |
| Paid apparitor | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Playing and tuning organ | 47 | 0 | 0 |
| Washing surplice, mending linen, &c. | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Cleaning communion plate | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Expenses of poll | 2 | 3 | 2 |

CHURCH v. DISSENT.—A meeting was held a short time since at the George hall, Aldermanbury, for the purpose of defending the formularies of the church from the attacks of dissenters. Neither of the archbishops, nor any of the bishops or dignitaries of the church were present, they deeming the church quite safe, left its defence to others of less pretension. The concoctors of the meeting, it is evident, were ambitious to obtain a little notoriety, and, therefore, valorously entered the field in defence of the establishment. The scene exhibited baffles description, affording an apt illustration of the confusion of Babel. There was a great diversity of opinion manifested by the speakers, some denouncing the dissenters as bad as infidels and atheists, others denouncing the Puseyites and yet defending high church views. One or two dissenters took advantage of the split in the camp, and fired a broadside or two into their midst, to their evident discomfiture. At the close of the proceedings, it was determined that an opportunity for discussion should be afforded, when both churchmen and dissenters should be heard. Accordingly, on Wednesday last, a meeting was held, the same chairman presiding, who called upon a young man named Carr, who disturbed various meetings convened by the dissenters to oppose the Factory bill. The church catechism was the subject for discussion. He attempted to refute the arguments of the Rev. J. Burnet, upon that most pernicious production. He miserably failed in his attempt, neither satisfying his friends, nor convincing his opponents. He was evidently placed above his position, and seemed well satisfied in having an opportunity for exhibition of his oratorical powers, which were certainly of a high order, provided noisy, bombastical declamation is a criterion of eloquence. John Scoble, Esq., ably disposed of the statements and arguments of the preceding speakers, and clearly showed that the church, in her creeds and catechism, taught the most destructive doctrines. Mr Pratt, on rising, said, "A house divided against itself could not stand." He perceived that there was great diversity of opinion among the church people on that subject. What wonder then that there should be dissent out of the establishment, when there were so many dissenters within her pale. He ridiculed the doctrine of regenerating baptism, referring to the great number of baptised criminals yearly exported to our penal colonies. Such a spirit of opposition was roused by the home thrusts of Mr P., as to cause a complete uproar, the partisans of the church being anxious to drown with clamour what they could not refute by argument. Several other speakers addressed the meeting, which did not terminate till a late hour.—*From a Correspondent.*

ATTENDANCE IN CITY CHURCHES.—The following statement has been put into our hands of the attendance at eighteen of the city churches, between half-past eleven and one o'clock, on the morning of Sunday, April 23, 1843; but we understand the numbers given to be exclusive of charity children in the organ gallery. Our informant was unable to learn, in every case, the name of the church he visited, and we would fain hope that in other respects the statement is not strictly accurate; but we give it with a view of calling the grave and earnest attention of the proper authorities to the subject:—"St Michael's, Cornhill, about 120 persons; seldom, I hear, so many. St Mildred's, Poultry, eighty persons; St Lawrence, Old Jewry, Cateaton street, a noble temple, would hold nearly 3,000 persons, I think about twenty persons; I could not count twenty. Bow church, Cheapside, not one-fiftieth full; St Mary's, Aldermanbury, a beautiful church, about forty persons; St —, corner of Bread street and Watling street, about thirty persons; St —, corner of Old Change and Watling street, the best filled; nearly half full; say 160 persons; St Mary and St Gregory, Old Fish street, nearly 100 persons; St Nicholas, about a quarter full; St —, corner of Old Fish street hill and Thames street, not twenty persons; St Michael's, Queenhithe, twenty-six persons; St James, Garlic hill, about fifty persons; St Michael's, College hill, about thirty persons; St Antholin's, Watling street, under 100 persons; St Swithin's, Cannon street, nearly half full; St Mary Woolnoth, the church with a fine facade, corner of Lombard street, about 150 persons, Dr Birch, the rector, preaching (N.B. Newton used to preach here. G. H. V.). St Nicholas Acon's, united with St Edmund the Martyr and King, Lombard street, about sixty-five persons; St Clement's, Clement's lane, under seventy-seven persons. I lamented to see in most of these churches, that though most of the pews were empty, the poor were only accommodated in the aisles."—*Westminster Review*, May; note to p. 555.

PUSEYISM IN LONDON.—Whoever wishes to see Puseyism in its (im)-pure and rampant state (says a correspondent of the *Oxford Chronicle*) may witness

it at Margaret street chapel, Portland street. The minister kneels at the altar, turning his back during the whole service upon the congregation. He mumbles through the psalms and prayers, and the "divine" litany is despatched in about three minutes. There is a little monkey of a boy, dressed in white, by the side of him; while a clergyman, also in white, performs the part of a fagelman, by "bobbing up and bobbing down" during nearly the whole service, which does not occupy quite an hour and a half. Can the Bishop of London be ignorant of such farcical proceedings? or, knowing them, is his silence to be construed into acquiescence? Sad fears are afloat on this subject.

ANTI-PUSEYITE MEETING.—Lord Ashley presided over a very large meeting on Wednesday, called for the purpose of preparing a memorial for presentation to his grace the Duke of Wellington, chancellor of the university of Oxford, directing the noble duke's attention to the fearfully rapid spread of heretical opinions in that seat of learning, and praying that his grace would use his influence in counteracting their dangerous tendencies. The meeting was composed exclusively of laymen, and is expected to be the first of a series. The noble chairman, in opening the proceedings, spoke at some length on the critical position in which the established church of England had been placed by the spread of the pestilential doctrines of tractarianism, and urged upon the meeting the necessity of adopting immediate measures for their suppression. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting, when a memorial to the Duke of Wellington was unanimously agreed to, and will be presented in the course of a few days. The Protestant association has also prepared a memorial to the right rev. the primate and the prelates of the church; it has already been numerously signed.—*Herald.*

DR PUSEY'S SERMON.—The perusal of the discourse which led to the suspension of Dr Pusey, as a preacher in the university of Oxford, is sufficient to explain why the rev. doctor's judges declined to enter into any discussion with its author, as to the agreement or disagreement of his doctrines with the teaching of the church of England; for although Dr Pusey asserts the doctrine of the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Lord's supper, or, as he calls it, "the holy eucharist," with as much distinctness as it ever was asserted by any member of the church of Rome, yet he brings so great a host of Anglican bishops and doctors, and so strong an array of passages from the homilies and catechism of the church of England, to support his views, as to render it evident that his judges, if they had allowed him to state his case, in condemning him would have been compelled also to condemn several of the main props and pillars of the church, and, to a considerable extent, the church itself.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND HIS PARISHIONERS AT WARE.—On every side there are symptoms that a fire is kindling from one end of the kingdom to the other. The Bishop of London can hardly know what he is doing; or, knowing it, must be utterly reckless of the consequences. The churchwardens and vestrymen of Ware, in Hertfordshire, have added their strong protest to that of St Leonard's, Shoreditch, against the conduct of their respective rectors in the adoption of Puseyistical practices during divine service. The bishop, we believe, has not yet vouchsafed to answer either remonstrance categorically; but his rev. secretary, Mr Dalton, merely acknowledges the receipt of the letter. To this the Wareians have added a smart rejoinder, calling upon the bishop, if he be a stickler for the rubric, articles, and canons, exclusively, to act at once upon their unqualified adoption, and to begin with the observance of all the saints' days! Such a hodge-podge will be enough to treble the number of seceders from the protestant church, and to make dissent a duty.—*Oxford Chronicle.*

THE HOUSE OF KEYS (ISLE OF MAN) AND THE REGISTRATION ACTS.—The Keys have thrown overboard the memorial of the dissenters to be placed on an equal footing with their brethren in England. The collective wisdom of the island have decided, that they are not to have civil registration, as it is an innovation, and no one can tell what further demands these troublesome dissenters may make; that on no account will they sanction the profanity of allowing dissenting ministers to join their people in the bonds of holy wedlock; and that if they wish to be married according to their own forms, they may cross to Liverpool and get it done, and thus benefit the steam-packet company. The Keys are a self elected, irresponsible body.—*Manx Liberal.*

IMAGE WORSHIP AT SANDFORD.—Our Oxford readers are aware that the author of the *Cherwell Water Lily*, one of the most enthusiastic followers of Mr Newman, expended a considerable sum in restoring and decorating the little church at Sandford, in conformity with the symbolism of the tractarian school. Among other decorations is an altar piece in which the Virgin appears surrounded by half a dozen angels—like Venus and as many cupids. A correspondent who was present says, "Before this idolatrous object the clergyman bows and prays, even in a more offensive manner than at Littlemore, the reading desk being placed in the front of the altar, his back turned to the people. Surely if a Brahmin or Budhist were to enter and to witness the priest in 'his canonic vestments drest,' saying his prayers before these seven stone images, he would conclude that heathenism and Christianity are essentially the same."—*Oxford Chronicle.*

THE FREE CHURCH.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE SECESSION IN GLASGOW.—The discussion in the Town Council on Thursday in reference to the city churches deserves attention.

The council have agreed to fill up three of the vacant churches, viz.—St George's, St Enoch's, and the Tron. The question, however, as to the propriety of reducing the establishment, in consequence of the very large secession which has taken place, remains still to be settled; and from the high ground taken up by the presbyteries, and by the adherents of the church generally, it is evident that a severe contest will ensue. The idea of the burghs of Scotland plunging themselves into bankruptcy in order to support a number of empty churches and sinecure preachers, is so clearly preposterous, that the public, we are sure, will not entertain it for a moment. Before the secession took place, one-half of the sittings in the city churches were unlet; since that event, out of 12,000 sittings, the number let amounts only to 2,200! It is, therefore, as clear as noon-day, that the churches are nearly five-sixths empty.—*Glasgow Paper.*

ATTENDANCE IN PAISLEY.—This week the congregation attached to Dr Burns have fixed on the erection of a church in the lower end of George street, in the vacant ground near the baptist church. The building is to be neatly finished, we believe, with side galleries only. The whole expense to be paid by the members in Paisley, and ready for occupation free of debt by the month of November. In our town churches, in place of improving, as was expected, the attendance is gradually getting less, a course which is likely to go on so long as there are people left to come out.—*Glasgow Post.*

LANDLORD INTOLERANCE.—The war of interdicts, which, it was hoped, had ceased by the abandonment, on the part of those so long subjected to them, of the benefits of the establishment, has been renewed in a more oppressive form than ever. The Rev Mr M'Leod, of Snizort, whose ministrations have been so signally blessed in the isle of Skye, and who has been denied the accommodation necessary for the erection of a place of worship, has further been interdicted, at the instance of M'Leod of M'Leod, from holding "any meeting for the purpose of preaching or lecturing," on any part of the extensive district belonging to M'Leod in that island, "including the roads or highways therein."—*Edinburgh Witness.*

New churches are being built for the seceding clergy from the Scotch establishment, with the greatest rapidity, throughout the country, and the Scotch papers abound in notices of the laying of foundation stones of new places of worship. In some parts of the country, however, the great landed proprietors have refused to grant sites for the erection of the churches.

THE WELSH INDEPENDENTS AND THE FREE CHURCH.—We observe, from an account of the proceedings of the North Welsh independent meeting lately held at Liverpool, that arrangements have been entered into, in consequence of a unanimous resolution of that body, by which collections are to be made over Montgomeryshire, Merionethshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Carnarvonshire, Anglesey, and at Liverpool. In other words, the churches of the congregational order in North Wales are immediately to come to the help of the free church. Regarding South Wales, a committee of ministers has been named to "lay the case before their brethren there, with the view to induce others to co-operate in this labour of love."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

IN last week's "Nonconformist" there is a letter from our valuable and zealous coadjutor in the Complete Suffrage cause, Colonel Thompson, in reply to an inquiry respecting his sentiments on the subject of war. He is, I am sure, too candid to be offended at my offering a remark or two upon it.

I truly honour the uprightness and sincerity with which he has expressed his opinions. Few, very few, who have grown grey in the service of such a system as war, have honestly arrived at his estimate of its real character; and having gone so far, Colonel Thompson will allow me to express my hope that he may yet live to perceive that the atrocities he condemns are inherent and inseparable from war in its mildest form; for although in some cases its features may appear less horrible, yet wide-spread suffering, misery, and death are its inevitable consequences.

There is not perhaps on record an effort of arms altogether so favourable in its results as that which achieved the independence of the United States; and yet with a whole people so entirely of one mind, passive resistance must have been as completely triumphant, without entailing the evil consequences of victory obtained by violence. Had the American revolution been unstained with blood, the curse of slavery would not have remained to tarnish the lustre of every institution, threatening to destroy, as it insults the very name of freedom.

"The doctrine of the indefensibility of military operations under any circumstances," I have good ground to believe, has made greater progress in public opinion, at least amongst the working classes, than our friend supposes; at all events, it is no new doctrine: it was promulgated by our Saviour, received and practised by his early followers; and it is now nearly two hundred years ago that William Penn proved to mankind that a government could exist under the most unfavourable circumstances, in the midst of exasperated and outraged savages, without a single fortification or weapon of defence.

The principles of peace are shown by experience to be as consistent with sound policy as they are in strict harmony with Christian duty. Their complete recognition is the greatest security against national invasion, and their practical application the most certain means of putting an end to legal injustice.

It is impossible to distinguish between aggressive and defensive wars. They must exist or fall together.

Whilst maintaining that a Christian cannot be placed in any position to justify an assertion of his own or his country's rights by depriving a single human being of life, I believe that there are occasions when it

may be his duty to refuse his support, either by money or personal service, to legal requisitions; and, whenever a whole nation adopts this course, the strongest government on earth is at once peaceably deprived of the means of oppression.

It has been well observed, "that the most invincible of all resistance is a calm, but inflexible, determination not to obey." I am, respectfully,

JOSEPH STURGE.

Birmingham, 7th Month 24th, 1843.

ANOTHER MOTIVE FOR EXERTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,

I believe a large portion of the dissenting community are greatly wondering what can be the cause of the apathy of our leaders at the present important crisis. Everything appears to conspire to point out the present as the moment for the dissenters of England by a determined and vigorous effort to lay the axe at the root of ecclesiastical corruption, a state church, and rid themselves of so fruitful a source of social discord, widespread irreligion, and clerical rapacity.

The present state of the Scottish and Irish church, with the success that has attended the prompt repulse of Sir James Graham's attack, all tend to demonstrate that so propitious a moment has never before dawned upon our ranks, and may not again be possessed for many years to come.

There can be no doubt, but that the bulk of dissenters are waiting with all but breathless anxiety and eagerness to be led forward in an attack upon this great barrier to spiritual religion, believing, that a few hours' consultation among our generals, and a note sounded through the length and breadth of our land, calling upon the people to be up and doing, would make the fissures to widen and the crumbling walls to totter, to their speedy and certain downfall. Your efforts to arouse the body are rightly estimated by thousands, and the noble motive by which you urge attention to the subject are not lost sight of, and possess a tendency to purify and preserve the mind from allowing secondary objects mainly to incite them forward. But there is one motive which I must think those who sit in high places have never rightly estimated, and, secondary though it may be, ought to be considered of no small account in the matter. I allude, Sir, to the loud call for sympathy with those who are suffering in pecuniary matters for their attachment to the voluntary principle. The public papers daily record numerous instances of seizures for "Church Rates," "Offerings," &c.; and the amount of injury thus inflicted upon our brethren, with its concomitant, the withdrawal of support to which it leads, is indeed fearful and increasing. I verily believe that could an accurate return be obtained of the annual pillage taking place and injury thus sustained, a large measure of sympathy would be elicited; for surely if our esteemed brethren knew the pecuniary loss, the inward sorrow, the angry frowns endured by hundreds of small tradesmen and others, for their honest attachment to a great principle, they would speedily arouse themselves to their help. It may be urged, that it is a question how far they are acting right who thus "suffer the spoiling of their goods." But admitting for a moment that "obedience to the powers that be" requires a different course; yet, seeing that thousands whose motives cannot fairly be questioned are thus actuated, and in their honest, and say mistaken, zeal, are suffering hardship and loss "for conscience sake," is it not a loud and urgent call, if only from sympathy for their brethren, for such efforts to be put forth by those at our head as would end in securing freedom of religion and redress of our wrongs? We are not unfrequently nor unjustly charged by our brethren the quakers with having left them to fight this battle alone; and it cannot be questioned that, had dissenters generally acted out their principles as they have done, church rates, with their train of evils, would long since have been extinct. They have quietly, but greatly, suffered; and long-deferred justice towards that body, and the increasing number who are following their example, if no higher motive could be found, require that a determined effort should be made to obtain speedy and permanent relief. The times, too, in which these losses are endured are such as require consideration; for, with diminished trade and increasing parliamentary and parochial charges, it is with great difficulty that the small tradesman can keep his ground. His conscientious scruples forbid his paying to the support of an irreligious system, and justice to himself and creditors leads him to question whether he ought not to refuse the decision of magistrates, and hazard personal imprisonment from the tender mercies of an ecclesiastical court, rather than allow the bread of his family or the property of his creditors to be taken at the pleasure of an insolent hierarchy. Such views are, I know, agitating the minds of many; and judge-made law, destroying our liberty in the vestry, has an evident tendency to increase the number; and, whether the reasoning be valid or not, the position it indicates as occupied by honest, but helpless, members of the Christian body, presents a claim for sympathy of no small amount. It was, sir, a pleasing and encouraging feature in the recent struggle, that many of our most esteemed and talented ministers spoke out boldly, and denounced in no measured terms the unholy alliance; and the hearty and unambiguous response which such expressions called forth from the people ought to be regarded as an index to the general feeling. What, then, can be wanted to induce us to profit by our advantages? What component part is required to make up the *quantum sufficit*? We see Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, heaving to rid themselves of the weight of an establishment. The government, alive to the extent of our power, tremble before us. The mass of English dissenters are recognising more clearly than ever their great principles, and are scanning the ground they ought to occupy; and the more liberal, and not inconsiderable, portion of the church party themselves are expecting and almost urging us on to a stand; and yet we parley—and yet we wait for "a more convenient season"—for another Sir James Graham again to trouble the waters before we will step in and be healed! Surely, sir, there must be some soporific influence which the "great" of any body are exposed to, of which the "commonalty" are not aware, that thus they stand inactive and aloof. Is it that, in the sunshine in which they bask, reluctance to activity is induced? Does the affluence and ease which surrounds them tend to steel their bosoms to the anxiety and distress which follow the avowal of their principles by their less favoured brethren? Whatever may be the cause, we have every reason ardently to desire that a Luther would appear, and, by his undaunted front, cause the enemies of pure religion to

fall back, while, with a voice of thunder, he arouse our captains of tens and of hundreds from their inglorious slumber, and call upon them to go up and possess the land. The present, sir, is a time of great promise, and losing it we may be thrown back, and inflict upon our successors years of toil and conflict to regain what we now allow to pass from our hands with indifference.

Earnestly desiring that your powerful appeals may be eminently successful in disturbing the repose of our hosts, I am, sir, yours sincerely,

Ipswich, July 22, 1843.

J. C.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

American Treaty, against the article relative to fugitive slaves, 9, Arms (Ireland) bill, for, 4.
Church Rates, for, 1.
— of England, for extension, 1.
Cooper and others, for mitigation of punishment of, 1.
Corn laws, for repeal of, 2.
Coroners bill, against, 4.
— in favour of, 2.
County Courts bill, for, 5.
Dueling, for suppression of, 1.
Education (Ireland), for alteration of system, 2.
Factories bill, against, 28.
— for limitation of labour in, 81.
Health of Towns bill, for, 2.
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 1.
Scientific Societies bill, for, 1.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

1. Church of Scotland bill.
2. Moveables (Scotland) bill.
3. Controverted Elections bill.
4. Prison Discipline bill.
5. Militia Ballots Suspension bill.
6. Customs bill.
7. Episcopal Functions bill.
8. Marriages (Ireland) bill.
9. Slave Trade Treaties bill.
10. Bills of Exchange bill.
11. Stock in Trade bill.
12. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction bill.
13. Industrious Classes bill.
14. Stamps bill.
15. West India Islands Relief bill.
16. Excise bill.
17. Loan Societies bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Mandamus Appeals bill.
2. Warrants of Attorney bill.
3. Controverted Elections bill.
4. Customs bill.
5. West India Islands Relief bill.
6. Slave Trade Treaties bill.
7. Bills of Exchange bill.
8. Militia Ballots Suspension bill.
9. Stock in Trade bill.
10. Episcopal Functions bill.
11. Marriages (Ireland) bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Arms (Ireland) bill.
2. Designs Copyright bill.
3. Customs act.
4. Fines and Penalties (Ireland) bill.
5. Stamps act.
6. West India Islands Relief bill.
7. Controverted Elections bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

1. Appeals (Privy Council) bill.
2. Woolen Manufactures bill.
3. Public Works (Ireland) bill.
4. Fines and Penalties (Ireland) bill.
5. Court of Exchequer (Ireland) bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, July 19th.

PRIVILEGE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in a few words, moved that the Serjeant-at-arms should have leave to plead to an action of false imprisonment brought against him by a Mr Pearce, a clerk of Mr Howard, Stockdale's attorney.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE, admitting that the proposed course was consonant with precedent, objected to it on principle. This action was brought only because the parties had seen the House wavering on a former occasion. He regretted that Sir Thomas Wilde was not present. The country had already paid enough for the blunders committed in the progress of previous actions; and now that it was seen that the House wavered in supporting their privileges, they might depend upon it that they had not heard the last of it. He moved, as an amendment, that the plaintiff should be ordered to attend at the bar of the house this day.

Mr HUME seconded the amendment, maintaining that the privileges of the House were important to the welfare of the public.

Sir R. PEEL said, that as the question had been so fully discussed on a former occasion, the House would, probably, not desire to have the debate now renewed. It must be remembered that the committal of the plaintiff would not stop the action, which would bring with it the old inconveniences—a recovery and levy of damages, a conflict of the House with the sheriff, and so forth. He believed that the course now proposed would not practically endanger the privileges of the House.

On a division, Mr Duncombe's amendment was rejected.

CORONERS BILL.

On the order of the day for the committal of the Coroners bill,

Sir E. KNATCHBULL said, he thought there was no occasion for any such measure. The coroners were sufficiently paid already; of which the proof was, that no vacancy in their offices occurred which there were not plenty of candidates to fill. He moved that the bill should be committed that day three months.

Mr CRAVEN BERKELEY seconded the amendment, deeming the burdens on the county rate to be quite sufficient already.

Mr LIDDELL suggested some amendments in the bill; and, after some observations from Sir B. HALL, Mr H. FITZROY, and Colonel ROLLESTON,

Lord WORSLEY, having the charge of the bill, said a few words in its defence.

Sir T. ACLAND supported him.

The House, on a division, rejected Sir E. Knatchbull's amendment, and the bill was committed for the purpose of being reprinted.

MEDICAL CHARITIES (IRELAND) BILL.

Mr FRENCH moved that the House should go into committee, in order to consider certain clauses, in accordance with the resolutions agreed to by the select committee appointed to inquire into the state of these charities, to the effect that an unpaid board of commissioners be appointed, with paid medical inspectors, for the purpose of rendering these institutions, by central control and inspection, more efficient for the purposes for which they were created. He deprecated, at some length, the opposition which he feared that Lord Eliot was about to make against the further progress of the bill. He attacked the general administration of that nobleman in Ireland, which, he said, had alienated the old conservatives, without conciliating a single man of the other party. While he was speaking, it was moved that the House be counted; but, forty members being present, he proceeded.

Lord ELIOT declined to enter, on this occasion, into the defence of his own general administration in Ireland; but objected to the further progress of this bill, as a measure likely to cause considerable expense, without corresponding benefit.

While Lord Eliot was yet speaking, a motion was made that the House should be counted, and it appearing that there were not 40 members present, the House was adjourned.

Thursday, July 20th.

WITHDRAWAL OF GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

On the order of the day for the committee on the Irish Arms bill, Sir R. PEEL stated the course which the government proposed to take with respect to a variety of bills then pending. The Ecclesiastical Courts and Factories bills they intended to postpone to another session; but they still entertained a hope of being able to find time for the County Courts bill. There were many of the measures in progress which would pass without difficulty, being unopposed to. Those on which discussion might be expected, and to which he was desirous of giving priority, were the Irish Arms and Irish Poor Law, the Scotch Church and the Machinery Exportation bills.

Lord ASHLEY expressed his deep regret at the postponement of the Factories bill, but acknowledged that it could not receive a proper consideration from a House of 40 or 50 members sitting in the middle of August.

ARMS (IRELAND) BILL.

The House having gone into committee on this bill—

Lord JOHN RUSSELL proposed that the 24th and 25th clauses, which give the power of entering houses, should be confined to such districts as the Lord Lieutenant should, by proclamation, declare to be in a state of disturbance requiring the application of this bill. Lord ELIOT objected that the effect of this limitation would be, that arms would be concealed in districts not disturbed. It was well known that the murders in Tipperary had been committed by strangers, bringing their arms with them from a distance. After some further conversation, the amendment was negatived on a division by 81 to 26.

The 25th clause excited further discussion, and two divisions were taken on amendments proposed by Lord Clements, which were both rejected.

Mr O'BRIEN moved an amendment on the 26th clause, which was rejected. Lord CLEMENTS then divided against the clause, but it was carried by 82 to 24.

Clauses 27 and 28 were struck out.

The several clauses up to the 34th were then severally discussed, and some of them warmly opposed. All were, however, carried, notwithstanding the frequent amendments proposed by the Irish members.

The Chairman then reported progress.

ARMS (IRELAND) BILL.

The long protracted committee on the Irish Arms bill was once more resumed, occupying the House as usual, for the main portion of the sitting. The patient, pertinacious, attentive scrutiny which has been bestowed on every sentence of every clause of this bill, has been, of itself, and apart from every other consideration, exceedingly creditable to those who have felt it their duty to resist or modify a measure, which even the government have confessed is a suspension of constitutional right. On the present occasion, commencing with clause 35, the committee proceeded as far as clause 54. Frequent attempts were made to amend or expunge obnoxious clauses, but to no avail; and the division after division that took place exhibited successive majorities against them, so that that portion of the bill was passed almost in its original shape.

Monday, July 24th.

ARMS (IRELAND) BILL.

The early portion of the sitting was occupied with the remaining clauses of the Arms bill. The main discussion was on the question of the period of the duration of the bill. The original proposition of the government was for five years; but after discussion, and two divisions, it was decided that it should last for two years, and to the end of the then next session of parliament, or, practically, for three years.

The whole of the clauses, including those which had been postponed for further consideration, having been gone through, the long protracted committee on this bill was terminated, the report to be brought up on Thursday.

IRISH SPIRIT DUTIES.

The report of the committee on the excise duties, recommending the reduction of the additional duty on Irish spirits, was then brought up; on which

Sir ROBERT FERGUSON moved that the resolution be re-committed, on the ground that the reduction should be greater than that proposed by the government. Admitting that ardent spirits presented a perfectly legitimate source of revenue, the only limit to the amount of which was the tendency to promote smuggling, he entered into a variety of statements, in order to prove that the greater reduction for which he contended was absolutely required in the present state of Ireland. Illicit distillation, which has rapidly increased since the imposition of the additional shilling duty, was now as great as ever it had been; the falling off in the regular consumption was not to be accounted for by the spread of the temperance movement, especially in the north of Ireland; the gaols were filled with prisoners, confined for offences against the revenue laws; and on these and other grounds, he urged that the proposed reduction from 3s. 8d. to 2s. 8d. was not sufficient to stop illicit distillation, or to restore the trade to that healthy condition which would be equally conducive to the interests of the revenue, and the moral habits of the people.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER was not convinced that illicit distillation would receive greater discouragement, or that the interests either of the revenue or of Ireland, could be further promoted by any greater reduction than the one proposed.

Captain JONES supported the amendment.

Mr F. BARING, keeping in view the principle that the duty on spirits should be maintained at as high a rate as was consistent with the prevention of illicit distillation, was convinced that the government proposition was a sufficient reduction.

Sir ROBERT FERGUSON, seeing he was opposed both by the present and the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, withdrew his motion.

The report was then received, and a bill founded on the resolution ordered to be brought in.

ADMIRALTY LANDS BILL.

This bill, which stood for committee, was objected to by Mr BARNARD and Mr HUME, defended by Mr SIDNEY HERBERT, the secretary to the admiralty, and, after some discussion, during which the main objection urged against the bill was, that it conferred an arbitrary and unlimited power on the admiralty to appropriate land "for naval purposes."

Sir JAMES GRAHAM interposed an explanation, to the effect that sufficient check and control would still remain to the House, inasmuch as all sums to be expended on the purchase of lands would have to be included in the estimates, which would be liable to question and scrutiny.

A division took place, when the bill was passed into committee by a majority of 59 to 28. But in committee it encountered further opposition, though ultimately it was carried through this stage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DROPPED ORDERS.—On Wednesday night Mr T. Duncombe complained of the conduct of the government and its supporters, in not assisting to "make a house" on the previous night. Lord John Russell and himself had important motions, the one on education, the other on prison discipline; and the government must not, therefore, complain of obstruction in the progress of public business, seeing they had prevented the discussion of these important subjects on the only day in the week now left to independent members. Sir Robert Peel said he had come down at twenty minutes past four o'clock, and was quite surprised when he found there was no house. Sir T. Fremantle (as one of the secretaries of the treasury) explained, that he had abstained from summoning the connexions of the administration because it had not been usual for the government to do so when there were important notices of motion from the leaders of opposition, who on such occasions usually collected their own allies; but if such usage was now to be discontinued, he had no objection to take upon himself this duty of "her Majesty's opposition." Mr Duncombe at length, by recommendation, withdrew his motion.

HEALTH OF TOWNS' BILL.—This bill was, at the recommendation of Sir J. Graham and several other members, withdrawn by its proposer, Mr Mackinnon, who expressed his opinion that the subject ought to be undertaken by the government. Sir J. Graham said that a report on the subject was in course of preparation.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—On Friday evening, in answer to Mr Vernon Smith, Sir R. Inglis stated that the University of Oxford was engaged in the task of revising its statutes, in which considerable progress had been made, as well as in the separate and independent labour of revising the statutes of the different colleges. Some changes, considered to be of a salutary nature, had also been effected, within the last two or three years, in some points of university discipline.

Factories Bill.—On the same evening Sir Robert Peel, in answer to Lord Ashley, said that government would introduce a factories bill early next session.

IRISH ARMS BILL.—Mr S. Crawford has given notice that, on bringing up the report on this bill, he would move a resolution to the effect that the right of carrying and using arms for all legal purposes, was the inherent right of Englishmen and Scotchmen, was an essential safeguard of freedom, and that to limit the right with respect to Ireland was creating an insulting distinction, and was a violation of the equality of rights, which was the only just basis of impartial legislation.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—Mr Ward has given notice of the following resolution for Tuesday next, in place of his former notice:—

"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, representing to her Majesty that, in the opinion of this House, it is

not by measures for the repression of local violence that the discontents of Ireland can be allayed, but by removing those grievances which have formed, for many years, the subject of recorded complaint and remonstrance between the two countries. That amongst the most prominent of these is the law by which the whole ecclesiastical property of Ireland is assigned to the clergy of a small section of the population; and that this House, deeply impressed with the belief that such a law is not conformable to reason, or to the practice of any Christian country, pledges itself, after providing for existing proprietary rights, and for the claims of her Majesty's protestant subjects, cordially to co-operate with her Majesty in effecting such a settlement of church property in Ireland as will remove all just ground of complaint, and give satisfaction to the Irish people."

THE LATE EARTHQUAKE IN THE WEST INDIES.—In the House of Commons, on Thursday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved a resolution for an advance of £150,000, to the colonies of Antigua, St. Christopher, Nevis, and Montserrat, on the passing of laws by the respective legislatures of those islands to secure the gradual repayment of the advance. He stated that the total loss sustained by the inhabitants of the islands named was £200,000, and £300,000. The resolution was agreed to.

PRESBYTERIAN MARRIAGES IN IRELAND.—On Thursday the Lord Chancellor presented to the House of Lords a bill for the confirmation of certain marriages in Ireland, which is to the following effect.

Whereas marriages have in divers instances been had and celebrated in Ireland, by presbyterian and other protestant dissenting ministers or teachers, or those who at the time of such marriages had been such, between persons being of the same or different religious persuasions, and it is expedient to confirm such marriages; Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same,

That all marriages heretofore had and celebrated in Ireland by presbyterian or other protestant dissenting ministers or teachers, or those who at the time of such marriages had been such, shall be, and shall be adjudged and taken to have been or to be, of the same force and effect in law as if such marriages had been had and solemnized by clergymen of the said united church of England and Ireland, and of no other force nor effect whatsoever.

II. That this act may be amended, altered, or repealed by any act to be passed in this present session of parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday.

The LORD CHANCELLOR introduced a bill, which was read a first time, for the purpose of legalising presbyterian marriages in Ireland. It was simply a temporary measure, having reference to such marriages as had taken place, and was introduced in consequence of the great anxiety which existed on the subject in Ireland. A more general measure will hereafter be brought forward.

Friday.

The Lord Chancellor's temporary bill on the subject of presbyterian marriages in Ireland was carried through all its stages, and sent down to the Commons, the standing orders having been suspended. Lord Brougham's Slave Suppression bill was read a third time and passed. The noble and learned lord took occasion to praise the Governor-general of India for having put an end to slavery on taking possession of Seinde, and expressing himself as looking forward with sanguine hope to the abolition of slavery in the East Indies. The Earl of Auckland reminded the House that while he was governor-general an act had been prepared for the abolition of slavery throughout British India, which had since been carried into effect by his successor. This statement surprised Lord Brougham, who said he had not the least idea that any such act had been passed, and thought there must be some mistake in the matter.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

At the meeting of the National Complete Suffrage Union held on Monday, letters were read from Mr John Somerville, Kendal; Colonel P. Thompson, London; Henry Vincent, London; W. Beadon, Taunton; S. Dark, Worcester; James Allen, Sheffield.

The council, with reference to various circumstances which would seem to indicate the approach of a general election at no distant period—

"Resolved—That the conduct of the present House of Commons affords sufficient ground for deprecating its continuance, as a national calamity, and confirms more and more the opinion of the council, that nothing short of a full, fair, and free representation of the people will lead to the removal of those burdens by which this nation is now so grievously oppressed.

"Resolved—That in order to be fully prepared for such general election, it is absolutely necessary that the friends and supporters of complete suffrage should immediately commence a systematic effort, having for its single object a decided action on the electoral body, with a view to the carrying of complete suffrage candidates through the poll."

The secretary was instructed to forward the resolutions to the different complete suffrage unions, and urge their practical importance on the consideration of the friends of the cause.

FINSBURY.—The result of the complete suffrage soirée, lately held at the White Conduit house, proves the usefulness of such demonstrations in furtherance of the cause of complete suffrage. Not only has that event created a beneficial moral influence throughout the borough, but was completely successful in a financial point of view. The committee of the association have resolved upon sending to each of the dissenting ministers of the borough a copy of Mr Sharman Crawford's excellent tract on *The Rights of the Working Classes*, with a short circular enclosed, respectfully requesting their serious attention to the subject. It has also been determined to take six copies of the *Nonconformist* weekly, to be left at coffee-houses in the borough, with the view of giving more extensive information upon the pro-

gress of the complete suffrage question. These steps are merely preparatory to some more general plan of operation for promoting the spread of their principles among the electors and inhabitants of the borough.

KINGSLAND.—On Monday evening a numerous and highly respectable meeting was held in the British school room, to hear an address from Henry Vincent on the constitutional history of the House of Commons. The Rev. E. Miall was called to the chair, and was greeted with hearty applause. He briefly addressed the meeting on the present posture of public affairs, showing the danger that would befall the nation unless warded off by the people themselves. Mr Vincent (who was loudly cheered) addressed the meeting for upwards of two hours, and gave a clear, though necessarily rapid, sketch of the growth of parliaments, in the course of which he proved that the theory of the British constitution recognised the whole people as a necessary element in the governing power. He made many references to some of the most important eras in parliamentary history, in proof of the immense power once wielded by the British people; and he distinctly showed that the aristocracy have always been the enemies of popular rights, by a reference to many of their arbitrary and unconstitutional acts. Mr Vincent then appealed to his audience to aid in restoring the constitution to its pristine vigour and purity, by purging the Commons of the leaven of aristocracy, and by infusing into it the democratic power of the people. His address was listened to with great attention, and was loudly cheered throughout. Votes of thanks were unanimously given to Mr Vincent and the chairman, and the meeting separated. The friends of the cause in this neighbourhood are thoroughly hearty in the work they have undertaken.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Northampton Complete Suffrage association have had an opportunity of testing their principles in the election of a town-councillor. The registration list told them they had no chance, but the stern, uncompromising feelings of honesty urged the thing to a decision, and a man holding complete suffrage opinions was nominated. Mr Wm Lowe, draper, of Gold street, despite of orange flowers, feeds, and attentions, alone and unaided, without solicitation or interference, polled 133 votes; while public breakfasts, lots of beer, &c., promises and threats, availed but to poll 281 votes. This is a pleasing sign of progress in a town in which the ground of complete suffrage has not long been broken.

TAUNTON.—The inhabitants of this town were again favoured by an able and eloquent address in favour of complete suffrage at the Public hall, on Wednesday last. The committee of the Complete Suffrage union gladly availed themselves of the offer of the services of the Rev. Mr Solly, on his return to Tavistock, from London, whither he had been as delegate to the late peace convention. Public notice was only given on the previous evening, but, notwithstanding the shortness of the time, and, notwithstanding the very recent lecture of the Rev. Mr Spencer, on the same subject, the hall was crowded with an attentive and respectable audience, thus evincing the deep interest the suffrage question is exciting. Mr Solly took a different ground from Mr Spencer, and, like that gentleman, he was enthusiastically applauded during the delivery; and, at the conclusion of his energetic and able address, W. Beadon, Esq., president of the association, was again voted to the chair. A vote of thanks having been unanimously accorded to the lecturer and the chairman, the meeting separated, having sat patiently for two hours. After the meeting, Mr Solly addressed the members of the Complete Suffrage society, and urged the paramount importance of their bringing forward a complete suffrage candidate in case of an election.

General News.

FOREIGN.

SPAIN.

Since our last number the cause of the Regent, which, according to the accounts received, appeared almost hopeless, has again advanced. His retreat, or seeming retreat, towards Cadiz, appears to have only formed part of a plan of operation which is as yet not fully developed.

General Van Halen, the Regent's general in the south, had left Cadiz and was advancing northward, probably with a view of co-operating with Espartero. The artillery at Cadiz had pronounced on its way to join Van Halen, but the city still remained firm to the cause of the Regent. The national guards were performing the duties of the garrison. Concha, who under the title of captain-general of the forces in Andalusia, had set out on the 6th for Grenada, was obliged to stop short at Loja (about half way), being sent word by the junta of that city that it was useless for him to advance further, as they had come to the determination not to receive him. This decision had not been taken at Grenada until after very long and tumultuous discussions. A movement of Van Halen having led the inhabitants of Malaga to dread that he might march against their city, a message was sent off in great haste to Concha, then at Loja, summoning him back as rapidly as possible to defend the town. This he gladly complied with, as his position at Loja was an embarrassing one, it being certain that Grenada was closed against him, and he being unwilling to return, knowing that public feeling had been veering round against him before he left Malaga. He returned immediately on receiving the summons, and was much more coldly received than at first. He again left on the 8th, to put himself at the head of the forces of Andalusia. The revolt of the artillery at Cadiz and the movement of that insurgent chief will compel Van

Halen to retire upon Cadiz or the Sierra Morena to join the Regent.

Madrid is, however, the central point of interest in the struggle. On the 11th, General Aspiroz, at the head of 3,000 men, arrived within the vicinity of the capital, about a couple of leagues distance. The garrison of Madrid consisted only of two or three companies of sappers and miners, depôts of the regiments which accompanied Espartero, and 100 horse of the regiment of Lusitania. Captain-general San Miguel assembled the commanders of the national guard; to whom he submitted his plan for the defence of Madrid; and they all approved his resolution of declaring it in a state of siege. General Aspiroz however maintained his distance from the capital, not daring to make any hostile demonstration, as it was garrisoned by 11,000 of the national guard, and as he was expecting the approach of the insurgent general Narvaez, who was on his way from Valencia at the head of from 4,000 to 6,000 men.

About two days' march after Narvaez was Zurbano and Seoane, who having combined their forces, were now at the head of 10,000 infantry, and 800 cavalry. They left Saragossa in pursuit of Narvaez on the road to Madrid. Meanwhile General Serrano advanced from Catalonia towards Saragossa, at the head of a large but ill disciplined force, with the view of co-operating with the other insurgent generals in their movement upon the capital. He summoned Saragossa to surrender; the authorities replied that they should not change their former determination, and that they would repel force by force.

On the 15th, Narvaez arrived before Madrid and summoned the city to surrender. The Municipality had replied, on the 17th, to his requisition, that Madrid would remain neuter, but would not open its gates until the end of the month.

The militia were under arms. A slight engagement had taken place. One captain and two men of the militia force had been killed. All business was at a stand; the shops are closed, and the entire of the national guard was constantly under arms. One half of them are allowed five hours' rest, whilst the other was on duty. The night service in particular was extremely fatiguing. Most of the streets were barricaded, and several houses had been placed in a state of defence. The majority of the civic soldiers were determined to hold out to the last extremity, and although the funds destined to pay the five reals per day awarded to every man under arms were beginning to fail, they nevertheless performed their duties with the utmost alacrity. In the evening of the 18th, Seoane arrived at Alcala de Henarez, within six leagues of Madrid. In the night of the same day Narvaez assembled all his troops at Torrejon de Ardoz, a village situate half way between Alcala and Madrid. Aspiroz returned in all haste from Aranjuez to unite his forces with his. The position of both would have been critical if placed between the city and the generals approaching from Saragossa. The troops of the insurgents, estimated to amount to 10,000, thus retreated from before Madrid; owing to the approach of Generals Seoane and Zurbano, who were then only seven leagues distant from it, and who were expected to make their entry on the following day. The insurgent generals would not risk a battle with Zurbano and an army far superior to their own. They were, according to the latest accounts, retreating towards the northern provinces.

Meanwhile little was known of the movements of Espartero himself, though it was supposed he was on his way to Madrid.

The government had received a despatch from the governor of Truxillo, giving an account of an engagement that had taken place between a column under his command and 400 revolted soldiers of the garrison of Badajoz marching on Madrid, who had entrenched themselves in the village of Cumbre. The village was stormed. The 400 men ultimately surrendered, including 23 officers, and, joining the Governor of Truxillo, marched with him to Carceres, which they entered on the 13th, the junta and the pronounced having taken to flight. Twelve men were killed and twenty-two wounded in the affair.

Letters from Barcelona of the 16th announce that the junta had sent a last summons to the governor and garrison of the fort of Montjuich, intimating to them that, if they did not surrender within a given delay, the garrison and its chief should be declared traitors to the nation, and as such the governor and one-half of the officers should be shot, and the soldiers decimated. A deputation of the junta of Barcelona, which had been sent to Valencia to convey to Catalonia the ministers Lopez and Caballero, had returned without being able to accomplish its mission, those ministers not having complied with the invitation of that body. The junta of Valencia, like that of Burgos, had declared traitors to the country those who should attempt to carry off the Queen from Madrid.

A letter from Saragossa of the 16th instant states that the castle of Lerida had not surrendered, as stated in the telegraphic despatch, to the insurgent forces, and that the garrison had raised the drawbridge and resolutely refused to admit the troops sent to relieve them. General Serrano had crossed the Ebro at Caspe, with the intention, it was supposed, of proceeding towards Calatayud. His force consisted of little more than 5,000 men, one-half of whom was formed of Catalan volunteers.

Private letters from Bayonne of the 20th instant state that Generals Leopold O'Donnell, Claveria, and Urbistondo, crossed the frontier on the 18th without meeting with any obstruction from the French authorities. The Spanish consul gave timely notice to the sous-prefet of their intention; the latter functionary took ostensible measures, and issued orders to his subordinates along the frontier to oppose the entrance of the refugees, but those orders were either

badly executed, or perhaps too well understood, and the result was that every man of any importance was allowed to cross the frontier.

In other parts of the country the movement had extended itself; but as the whole insurrection would chiefly depend upon the proceedings of the hostile armies before Madrid, the details are of but secondary interest.

FRANCE.

In the Chamber of Peers, on Tuesday, the whole budget of receipts was voted. Various questions respecting foreign affairs were put to M. Guizot; and some points in his replies are interesting to the English reader—

France carefully abstained from exercising any influence, any direct or indirect interference, in the internal dissensions of Spain. The exiled generals who lately returned to their country quitted France without any connivance or connexion with the government. No arms had been supplied by France; leave to export arms to Spain had been refused to a commercial house; and everything stated and printed in Madrid, London, and Paris, for the purpose of involving the King's government in passing events at the other side of the Pyrenees, was false and calumnious. As to Ireland, he did not conceive himself justified in saying a word upon the subject. He sincerely desired the perfect tranquillity of the United Kingdom, and he felt confident that it would be everywhere maintained or re-established. During the last twenty years, the English government had done a great deal for the welfare of Ireland. "The chiefs of the present administration gave emancipation to the catholics of that country; and I have every confidence—and I here speak as a mere spectator of human occurrences—that they will reconcile, in the management of this great affair, what is due to the dignity and unity of England, with what behoves the country and the benevolence which a good and wise government owes to all its subjects."

The session of the two Chambers really closed on that day. It is announced that they were to meet on Monday only to receive official notice of the closing of the session.

The weather throughout France during last week was on the whole cold and stormy. On Saturday evening and on Sunday much rain fell in Paris. The crops throughout the country were most promising, but required sunshine and heat to bring them to maturity.

The *Toulonnais* of the 20th inst. states, that the *Gregeois* steamer, which had just arrived, despatched, on the 13th, off Cape de Gatt, a division, supposed to be English, composed of nine sail—one ship, five frigates, two corvettes, and a schooner—steering a W.S.W. course towards Gibraltar. One of the frigates bore a commodore's pennant.

In consequence of O'Connell's repudiation of French assistance, the recent zeal on behalf of repeal in Paris has wonderfully abated.

AMERICA.

The packet ship *Oxford* arrived at Liverpool from New York on Thursday, but has brought no important intelligence.

Repeal meetings continued to be held in the principal cities. The publication of a speech of Mr O'Connell's, in which he denounced American slavery and American slaveholders, has caused a diversion against repeal, particularly in the south. At Baltimore a meeting in favour of repeal has been thrown into a state of confusion by allusion to the honourable and learned gentleman's anti-slavery sentiments.

The singular case of Mrs Catherine Gilmour, *alias* Cochrane, who had been arrested, on her arrival at New York from Liverpool, on a charge of having poisoned her husband at Paisley, attracted, from being the first arrest under the Ashburton treaty, much public attention. The prisoner, after having undergone a second examination, was remanded until the 1st of July. The British Consul had employed a lawyer to watch the case.

The desperate riots which had taken place in Canada, among the turn-out workmen on the Beauharnois canal, had been subdued, after a conflict with the military, in which several of the rioters were killed.

The crops of wheat are expected to be larger than they ever were before, and the harvest is in progress in many of the states.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

COMMOTIONS AMONGST THE JEWS IN GERMANY.—The *Aix-la-Chapelle Gazette* states that a new Jewish sect has been formed at Leipsic, under the auspices of a Dr Creznach, and the *Universal German Gazette* of that city confirms the account with the following remarks:—

"Highly interesting is it to inquire into the origin of this sect, which clearly and openly abandons the doctrines of Judaism, without, however, adopting those of Christianity. It will be seen that a long struggle preceded this event, and that political causes had their share of influence. The new Jews, it is well known, have already for a long time kept neither the prescriptions of the Talmud nor the laws of the Old Testament. Not 500 out of 6,000 Jewish inhabitants here live according to Jewish laws, and that small number only because they are compelled to do so from personal, not conscientious, motives. They even pay men to attend the synagogue, so that there, at least, a sufficient number is present for reading prayers. The best, therefore, the Jews could do is to adopt Christianity in a body. But, in doing so, they have to swear to forms of creed in which they have no faith. They formed a separate sect, which obliges the members to have their children christened and educated in the doctrines of Christianity, without the parents becoming Christians themselves. This idea meets with opposition from people where it was least to be expected. Late measures also, in regard to converted Jews, had great influence on this step. 'Look,' they would say, 'the Christians do not want us as converted Jews; they do not call us Christians, but they continue to give the former appellation: let us, therefore, much rather remain Christian Jews, such as the gospels are speaking of. This is the base upon which the sect is founded, and declarations are now arriving from all quarters, in favour of it as well as against it. The Jews in Austria would

adopt this new doctrine *en masse*, but they are afraid it would make their political situation worse. Dr Creznach is exactly the man to direct a matter of this kind. He has zeal and energy, and as to classical education and learning, he is probably the first among the German Jews. His literary acquirements are almost as incredible as his extraordinary memory, and with all this he is a thorough patriot, and highly esteemed everywhere. But whether this sect will spread extensively is a great question."

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.—These settlements, though the public do not seem to be aware of it, are really of some importance. In 1840 the declared value of the exports of British produce and manufactures from this country to the west coast of Africa was £492,128, and in the same year the declared value of the exports to the Cape of Good Hope was £417,091. The British trade and settlements on the west coast of Africa have called into existence a civilisation imperfect when compared with that of Europe, but far in advance of anything previously known there.

According to an unauthenticated report, Queen Victoria with her Consort will come to Berlin in the autumn, to return the King's visit. Should this be the case, Berlin would be as animated in autumn as it is now dull in summer.—*Hamburg Paper*, July 18.

A sad accident happened on Tuesday evening, on the Paris and Orleans railroad, by the collision of a locomotive with the end of a train: two of the diligences were dashed to pieces, and about twenty passengers more or less injured; three of whom have since died.

SAFETY OF THE COLUMBIA STEAM SHIP.—All anxiety respecting the fate of this vessel, respecting which great anxiety has lately been felt, is removed by the following intelligence from the captain of the ship *Themis*. "The Columbia steam-ship was seen on shore on Seal Island, (half-way between Boston and Halifax,) on the 4th instant, at noon; the weather fine, and several fishing vessels close to. The Columbia was in charge of a pilot when she struck.—By the ship *Themis*."

LOSS OF THE COLUMBIA STEAMER.—The steamer *Margaret*, which went down to the Columbia (says the *Halifax Guardian* of the 5th instant), returned yesterday afternoon about three o'clock. She has brought all the passengers and the mails which were on board the ill-fated steamer, and went ashore on Sunday, about one o'clock, upon the Devil's Limb (a solid rock), a mile and a quarter from land, and one and a half from the lighthouse on Seal Island. From the thickness of the fog nothing at a distance was discernible, and, consequently, it was impossible to form any accurate judgment as to their particular situation. For three hours, in this perilous predicament, their ultimate fate was a matter of most anxious solicitude, and their impending danger continued to assume a more hopeless aspect. During all this time every exertion was making to lighten the vessel, by throwing the coal, &c., into the sea; and with her engines, and every available means, a continued perseverance was made to get her off, but, alas! without success. Alarm guns were constantly fired, but unfortunately—from the ignorance of their position—at the side of the ship from the shore. About four o'clock, to their no little delight, a boat from the island made its appearance, and very quickly explained to them their "whereabouts." The ladies were all immediately sent on shore, most of the other passengers remained until the next morning with the crew on board, for the purpose of rendering whatever assistance they could towards saving the ship from destruction. At every flood-tide the engine was put in operation with a view of backing her, but the impracticability of moving her may be perceived from the fact, that she was so far up upon the rock as to draw at her bows five feet of water less than usual. On Wednesday she broke her back, and when the *Margaret* left her she was swinging by the bows, and certain from the least violent commotion of the wind and waves to become utterly destroyed. All the moveables on board have been saved. The crew of the Columbia have been left at the wreck, and hopes are entertained that they will be able to remove a great part of the engines before she goes to pieces. The whole of the passengers signed a testimonial approving of the conduct of Capt. Shannon, who has since been appointed to the command of the *Margaret*.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* has the following from Naples, June 30:—"The negotiations relative to a commercial treaty with England are terminated. The draft of a treaty was sent to London, from which place it has been returned pretty much modified, but doubtless also accompanied by notes, to which it is said the commissioners and the Neapolitan ministers have nothing to object."

THE COMET.—Extract from a letter, dated Sydney, New South Wales, March 6, 1843:—"We are all exceedingly interested in the course of a prodigiously fine comet which surprised us a few days ago. I saw it on Thursday, March 2, just at sunset, and since then it has arisen higher every night. It infinitely surpasses everything I have ever thought of in a comet. The tail was 40 degrees, of a perfect white, and as straight as a line."

PRUSSIA AND CHINA.—BERLIN, July 4.—The Prussian government, induced by feelings of interest for the commerce and industry within the boundaries of the customs union, intends to send a commissioner to China.

RUSSIAN COMMERCE WITH CHINA.—Russia has been operating pretty largely upon the Manchester yarn market in the course of the week. Her object, in the present purchases, is the supply of the demand for cotton cloths in her barter trade with China. There is no power in Europe so wide awake to her own commercial interests as Russia. The trade

between Russia and China is one, the terms of which, as with all other European nations, have hitherto been dictated altogether by the latter power. Like Canton on the sea-board, the frontier town or river port of Kiatcha is the only mart where the brother of the sun and moon condescends to interchange commodities with his western neighbours. The trade is also exclusively one of barter; tea and silks are exchanged for leather, furs, cottons, woolens, and linens. A smuggling trade, which appears to be secretly connived at by both governments, has also lately risen, by the route of the Caspian and Siberia; but, like the legitimate commerce of Kiatcha, it is also a strictly barter trade. The drain of Sycee silver, therefore, which was so evidently the real offence of our opium traffic with China, is in no danger of interrupting her amicable relations with Russia. The trade between Russia and China is rapidly increasing in magnitude and importance.

The Marquis of Hertford has instituted proceedings against Nicholas Suisse in the chamber of the civil tribunal of the Seine, to recover the value of 30,000 francs French rentes; and the Paris papers of Thursday report the commencement of the trial on Wednesday. The question at issue was tried in London; but an important witness for the plaintiff refused to come from France.

SERVIA.—A letter from Vienna, July 16, in the *Augsburg Gazette* states that Baron Lieven, who had a week before set out for St Petersburg, had returned the previous day, and was about to proceed to Servia. "It is said," says the letter, "that, on his arrival at Warsaw, he received fresh instructions from the Emperor Nicholas, who, displeased at what had taken place at the late election in Servia, and shocked at the irregularities committed, orders him to return to Belgrade, and have a new election proceeded to. It is not necessary to state that this news has produced great satisfaction here. It was remarked that Baron Lieven, after having had a conference with the ministers, paid a visit to Prince Miosch."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN INSTITUTE.—A public meeting was held on Thursday, at the Hanover square rooms for the purpose of considering a prospectus, submitted by Mr J. S. Buckingham, for the establishment of "The British and Foreign institute" for facilitating personal intercourse between the educated classes of all countries, and rendering the literary circles of the metropolis more easily accessible to visitors from the Continent, the colonies, and the provinces. The Earl of Devon, who presided, entered into a lengthened statement of the objects sought to be obtained by the proposed establishment. It was estimated that not less than 200,000 strangers visited London every year, and it was thought desirable to present the many well-educated and accomplished individuals who were included in that number with facilities of personal intercourse, under proper guards for respectability, and at the same time at a moderate expense. The clubs had not supplied the desideratum, and it was proposed to obtain a commodious edifice for that purpose. It was proposed to have four classes of members at different rates of entrance fees and annual subscriptions. 25 lectures and 25 *conversations* and *soirées*, to which ladies would be admissible, should be given each session, including 50 meetings in each year, to all of which the members should have free admission. Distinguished foreign travelers visiting London only for a short period would be invited to join the institute without cost. Resolutions approving of the plans suggested were proposed, after the delivery of long speeches, by Lord Brougham, Lord J. Stuart, M.P.; Mr Wyse, M.P.; Lord Grosvenor, Mr Pendarves, M.P.; Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir E. Codrington, Mr Hindley, M.P.; Mr Ewart, M.P.; Mr Mackinnon, M.P.; Dr M'Kenzie, and a number of other gentlemen. The following curious scene took place:—

In the course of Lord Dudley Stuart's speech, while eulogising Mr Buckingham's experience as a traveler and an author, and suggesting that gentleman should be appointed "resident director" of the institute, a gentleman who was seated in the centre of the room asked in a very loud tone of voice whether Mr Buckingham had not, in his book on Palestine, used Lord Valentia's plates?

Lord Brougham, who sat next the chairman, and Mr Buckingham simultaneously replied "No." The gentleman having still looked rather sceptically, Lord Brougham, in a very angry and loud tone, reiterated, "No, I say no; do you understand that [laughter]?" You have got your answer. Mr Buckingham says no, too [laughter]. What more do you want [laughter]? No, no, no; do you understand that [laughter]?"

The gentlemen who had originally put the question said, he understood sufficiently what "no" meant, and asked his lordship whether he did [laughter and confusion]!

Lord Brougham (passionately): Why the man is mad [laughter]. Do you hear, sir? You put a question, and "we" say "No"—that is your answer—no; can you understand that? No! I say, no.

The former speaker: I am very glad to hear it.

Lord Brougham (angrily): We don't care whether you are or not [laughter].

The storm having subsided, the Chairman said, he was authorised by Mr Buckingham most distinctly and emphatically to deny that he had ever used the plates alluded to. The Earl of Devon was appointed president of the institute, and expressed his intention to occupy the office. A long list of vice-presidents and a committee of management were chosen.

PAENITENT FEMALES' REFUGE.—On Tuesday, the 18th inst, the fourteenth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this society was held at the Asham, Cambridge heath, Hackney. The secretary read the report, from which it appeared that the objects of the institution are to afford protection to innocent females, who may, from peculiar circumstances, be exposed to imminent danger resulting from temptation, and to assist the restoration of

those who have actually fallen into sin, and are desirous of returning to the paths of virtue. Since the establishment of the "Refuge," nearly 800 females have been admitted; the far greater majority of whom, it is confidently believed, have been permanently benefited. During the past year, 16 have been placed in respectable situations, and 13 have been restored to their friends. The most encouraging testimonials of the good conduct of individuals placed out as servants by this society were adduced, some of which extend over a period of several years, thus satisfactorily proving that the young women have maintained a consistent character during the whole of that time, and have not relapsed into their former habits. Since the last report the committee have removed to the eligible asylum they now occupy, and it is hoped that this useful charity will be liberally supported by a benevolent public. The Rev. Messrs John Howard Hinton, J. Carlile, E. Halliday, W. Hodson, W. Miall, &c., &c., powerfully advocated the claims of the society, after which the meeting separated.

THE IRISH ARMS BILL.—BOROUGH OF FINSBURY.

An open air meeting of inhabitants was held on Monday evening, on Clerkenwell green, for the purpose of expressing their opinion against the Irish Arms bill and class legislation. The meeting was by no means so fully attended as might be expected. Mr Balls, as chairman, opened the proceedings in a speech condemnatory of the bill, and read a letter from Mr Wakley, M.P., apologising for his inability to attend the meeting, and expressive of his concurrence in its objects, and of his belief that unless full justice were rendered to the people of Ireland, and measures of a different character from the Irish Arms bill passed for that country, placing its inhabitants on a footing of equality with the people of England, the repeal of the union (for which the people had every right legally to look) must inevitably be carried. The honourable member's letter was received with loud cheers. The chairman also read a letter of apology for non-attendance from Mr Feargus O'Connor, and concluded by introducing Mr Thomas Duncombe, M.P., who was received with enthusiastic cheers, and who spoke in terms of strong reprobation of the Irish Arms bill, against which he had already protested, and should continue, in every stage of its progress, to protest, as a most iniquitous and uncalled-for measure [cheers]. The honourable member then entered into a brief detail of the grievances of Ireland. A protest denouncing the Irish Arms bill and class legislation, and emanating from the meeting, was then read from the chair and agreed to. The meeting was subsequently addressed by several speakers favourable to its objects.

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.—The following able address has been issued by the members of the National association, London, to their fellow subjects in Ireland:—

FELLOW COUNTRYMEN.—Actuated by that fellow-feeling which links together the oppressed of all classes and countries, we can no longer remain silent spectators of that energetic agitation you have commenced for a repeal of the legislative union between the two countries.

Whilst we cannot but admire the generous enthusiasm which appears to pervade all classes, and the moral and peaceful character of your mighty demonstrations, we at the same time deplore, what we conceive to be, the misdirection of that invincible moral power which, thanks to the teachings of Father Mathew, you are now enabled to bring against the oppressors of your country.

We wish to record our solemn conviction, that you have not only a natural but a constitutional right to meet in your assembled thousands, to discuss and to petition against any matters which you may conceive to be either national or local grievances. We cannot conceive that this constitutional right can be destroyed because myriads, instead of thousands, congregate together; or, that the meeting, instead of being within four walls, is held in the open air. What place indeed so fitting for the oppressed poor of the earth to meet together, to utter their complaints against their unjust rulers, as beneath that broad firmament whose glorious orbs exercise an equal influence upon all; encircled by their own green hills, and where the sweet breath of heaven exerts its genial influence upon the whole of God's creation, without regard to the petty distinctions that have been set up by the pride and selfishness of man? So important do we conceive this right to be—the right of meeting to discuss grievances—that we would oppose, to the utmost of our power, the efforts of either a tory cabinet or a whig administration, to put down this peaceable expression of public opinion by arms bills, coercion acts, or any other species of persecution.

But we say that we deplore the *misdirection* of your present agitation. We will endeavour briefly to state why. We suppose that you seek a repeal of the union merely as a means to an end, that end—justice to Ireland. We are desirous of the same termination to our labours—justice to Ireland; justice to England; justice to the whole kingdom. You complain of intolerable national burdens—so do we; you complain of a dominant and grasping state clergy, forcibly supported against the conscientious convictions of a large majority of the people—so do we; you complain of inequality of representation—so do we; you complain of non-representation—so do we. In fact, whatever great national evil you complain of, we have the like cause of complaint. Upon inquiry, we can trace these evils but to one originating cause—the curse of class-legislation. It is this which has brought upon the two countries misery, degradation, poverty, and crime; it is this which is fast hurrying the nation into the gulf of irretrievable ruin. Aristocratic rule is our enemy, as it is yours. We have a mutuality of wrongs—why not be united in seeking redress? Rely upon it, the foes we have to cope with are so strongly entrenched in the various institutions they have upraised around them, that it will require our most strenuous united efforts to dislodge them from their strong-holds. Why then dissipate the means at our command by partial and divided efforts? Weigh well this matter; reflect upon it, and ask yourselves with all sincerity, the following questions:—

First—Would a repeal of the legislative union confer

any amount of benefit equal to that of giving her people an equality of political rights?

Second—Would it not be more to the advantage of Ireland, and would there not be a greater probability of success, if a cordial and firm union could be brought about of the different sections of the honest and well-disposed radical reformers of the whole kingdom? of men pledged to the advocacy of those great democratic principles—equal rights and equal laws—the establishment of which would result in making the union of the two countries, not merely one of waste paper, but a real living union; giving to Ireland her full share of political power, securing the redress of her manifold wrongs, and perfecting and rearing up such a fabric of liberty, based upon secure and solid foundations, as would bid defiance alike to the open attacks and secret artifices of the enemies of the rights of man; affording protection to the weakest, security to the humblest, and offering encouragement to all those arts of civilised life which tend to make nations truly glorious?

We conjure you, then, to consider whether it would not be advisable, even on the ground of expediency, to unite with the people of England and Scotland, for the accomplishment of such momentous results. Why should disunion exist? It is not the deep waters which divide our shores, but the still deeper intrigues of self-interest and bigotry, which in ten thousand channels have laboured to divide our hearts, have led to the formation of prejudices opposed to our mutual interests. Those mischievous feelings have been carefully fostered by the interested classes of both countries. Prejudice and ignorance have ever been the most potent allies of despotism; union and knowledge are the twin brothers destined to destroy its dominion.

They are not the real patriots, or the true philanthropists, who do ought to foster these unhappy prejudices; who strive to set class against class, creed against creed, people against people. What can be more insane than to set in hostile array Celt against Saxon, or Saxon against Celt, when all should be bonded together against the common oppressor; against that haughty and selfish aristocracy who, whilst luxuriating on the spoil wrung from a wretched and defenceless people, treat their prayers with contempt, their just complaints with mingled scorn and derision.

If you agree with us, brethren, as to the origin of our evils, co-operate with us to effect the remedy. The only effectual one we believe to be, is the establishment of those just principles which your great and talented leader, Daniel O'Connell, has sworn to, and repeatedly pledged himself to support. In all countries where these principles have obtained, the people are progressing in knowledge and happiness; wherever class legislation prevails the millions are ignorant and miserable.

We care not, fellow-countrymen, whether that mockery of representation—that enormous lie of the nineteenth century—the corrupt and corrupting House of Commons—sit at St Stephen's, on College green, or at Holyrood, to trifle the time in party bickerings, or legislate away the property, lives, and liberties of the people; while class legislation remains, its fruits will ever continue the same; wealth, honours, privileges, to the few—poverty, degradation, slavery, to the many.

Again, then, we reiterate, let us be united. If we would break this iron yoke of bondage; if we would overthrow this soul-debasing tyranny; if we would secure our liberties by basing all our institutions on the immutable principles of truth and justice; if we would extend self-government to its utmost possible limits; let us be united. We, equally with yourselves, repudiate force and violence; we seek to attain our object by the only legitimate weapons of truth, reason, and argument. Let us then be united.

Though divided by the channel, we are encompassed by the ocean; bigotry would dis sever, but charity should unite us; and as the blood of both countries commingle in our veins, and the people of both blend their occupations in the workshop and the field, so, assuredly, under the benign influence of free and equal institutions, would our liberties and interests be blended and identified as one united and happy people. Hostility would cease, jealousies and feuds would terminate, and both countries would enter upon a course of generous emulation, vying with each other to relieve suffering humanity and enhance the real happiness of mankind; and Ireland would then become in reality what the fond imagination of the poet has pictured her—

"Great, glorious and free;
First flower of the earth, first gem of the sea."

Signed, on behalf of the association,

July 18th, 1843. W. LOVETT, Secretary.

MR COBDEN IN MARK LANE.—A rather curious scene took place yesterday on the corn exchange, Mark lane, which, as it may serve certain party purposes to misrepresent, we take the earliest opportunity of noticing. The honourable member, in company with one or two city gentlemen, paid a visit to the corn exchange for the purpose of witnessing the proceedings, and, after making the round of the market, was about to retire, when it became buzzed about that the great anti-corn-law agitator was present. A general rush almost simultaneously took place towards the spot where the honourable gentleman was quietly engaged in conversation, and the cry of "Cobden, Cobden, turn him out—turn him out," was raised by a few rude partisans of monopoly, and several handfuls of wheat were thrown over the person of the honourable gentleman. A scuffle ensued between the advocates of opinions on both sides, in which the monopolists got the worst of it. Mr Cobden retired laughing heartily at the strange storm of wheat and words that had so unexpectedly disturbed the sober business of the day.

THE LATE EXPLOSION ON BOARD THE CAMPERDOWN.—On Monday morning another inquest was held on the body of Miss Barton, who has died of the injuries sustained by this explosion. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, at the same time expressing their hope that the authorities would act up to the recommendation of the jury who were empaneled on view of the body of Miss Yerker. Lieutenant Blackmore, of the Camperdown, who was most severely injured by the explosion, still lies in a very bad state, and from the statements of his medical attendants, it appears that he is not yet out of danger.

THE TOWER MOAT.—Upwards of 100 men are daily employed at the Tower in making preparations for filling up the moat. Extensive cuttings are being made in the soil for the purpose of effectually draining the swamp, and carrying off the numerous drainings which flow from the interior of the citadel. When the work is completed, it is intended to lay out a considerable portion of the ground in ornamental gardens, and the enclosed area is to be used as a drilling-ground for the troops stationed in the fortress.

PIRATING PUNCH.—An injunction was granted by the Vice-chancellor on Tuesday, on the application of Messrs Bradbury and Evans, the proprietors of the original *Punch*, against the publishers of a pamphlet called *Punch's Steam Boat Companion*, in which work the portrait of the redoubted hero had been pirated. His honour remarked that the application certainly formed an excuse for the court taking punch in the morning.

EXPERIMENTAL TRIP OF THE NEW ROYAL YACHT.—On Wednesday her Majesty's yacht, *Victoria* and *Albert*, made her first experimental trip to try her engines. Throughout the voyage she proved herself a very superior sailer and an excellent sea boat; her speed was calculated at 14 miles an hour, and it is anticipated that, when she is all ataut and in proper trim, her rate of sailing will be even greater. In performing the 14 miles per hour, it must be understood that this is her actual speed through the water, without reference to the tide. On going down the river she passed some of the most rapid of the Margate and Ramsgate steamers, and on getting into rough water she had even a greater advantage over them.

DEMOLITION OF ABNEY HOUSE.—Those of our readers who have any curiosity to see the house in which Dr Watts passed so large a part of his life, and the apartment which was his study, must make haste, or the opportunity will be lost. Abney House is destined to be broken up, and will be brought to the hammer preparatory to demolition on Wednesday next. In the mean time it may be viewed by any person who chooses to jump into a Stoke Newington omnibus for that purpose. The building is to be removed in order to make way for another entrance into Abney-park Cemetery. The new entrance will exactly face the elegant little chapel of the cemetery, and will much enhance the beautiful appearance of these spacious grounds.

SPOHR AT EXETER HALL.—On Friday evening Spohr's oratorio "The Fall of Babylon," was performed for the first time in Exeter hall, by the Sacred Harmonic society. Dr Spohr himself conducted the orchestra. The hall was densely crowded in every part. The principal solo singers were Miss Birch, Miss Rainforth, and Staudigl. When Spohr appeared in the orchestra, he was received with demonstrations of enthusiastic admiration of his genius, which must have been gratifying to him, and were honourable to an audience who showed themselves so well able to appreciate the character of the greatest living musician. Notwithstanding the difficulty of the composition the oratorio was performed with precision and smoothness, and exceeded the expectations generally formed by musical critics. The performances of the evening closed by the presentation of a large and richly-ornamented silver salver being presented to Spohr by Mr Harrison, the president of the Sacred Harmonic society.

Quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, from the 22d of April to the 15th of July, 1843:—

| LIABILITIES. | | ASSETS. | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Circulation .. | £19,280,000 | Securities .. | £21,462,000 |
| Deposits | 10,724,000 | Bullion | 11,615,000 |
| | £30,004,000 | | £33,077,000 |

Postscript.

Wednesday, July 26th, 1843.
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—Mr Hume moved last night, in the house of Commons, for leave to introduce a bill, having for its object a national education, which should include only "secular and moral" tuition, and leave "all religious instruction to religious teachers distinct from the school." He said, that in the present state of England, there being twenty different sects who could not agree upon any one mode of religious instruction, no general education at all would be obtained if religious instruction were made a *sine qua non*. Secular education he defined to be that which inculcates the duties and conveys the information required of and for mankind in their intercourse with one another; and he apprehended this secular education to be the best preparation for that scriptural education which ought to follow, and which he admitted to be also necessary for teaching them their duty to God. He thought that education ought to be compulsory, that parliament ought to lay down a general system of education, and that each community ought to defray the cost of its own poor. This cost ought to be a tax upon property. He would allow no preference to any sect. The matter should be managed by a local committee; but he would have in London a board of education, who should appoint inspectors. Mr Hume continued to expatiate on the importance and advantages of the subject for about two hours.

Mr Ewart, in seconding the motion, questioned the expediency of making education compulsory, and, indeed, of introducing the subject at all in the present session, when men's minds had not recovered from the mutual animosities engendered by the educational clauses of the Factory bill. He

insisted on the necessity of an annual statement from ministers of the progress and prospects of education.

At this point of the debate the inexpediency of introducing this subject at so late a period of the session was illustrated in a practical manner—by the counting out of the House.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—A rambling discussion took place last night on various subjects, and the Grand Jury Presentments (Ireland) bill was read a second time.

DURHAM ELECTION.

The nomination of candidates took place on Monday morning. Mr Bright was the anti-corn law and complete suffrage candidate, Mr Purvis the conservative. Mr J. Anderson proposed, and Mr Shield seconded, the nomination of Mr Bright. Mr Purvis was proposed and seconded by Messrs Hayes and Foster.

Mr BRIGHT then addressed the electors amidst loud cheers. After a few preliminary remarks, he said—For many years past he had been attentively observing the unhappy condition of a numerous body of his fellow-countrymen, and he had been attending to the great measures necessary to be adopted to raise them from the prostrate condition in which they were placed (cheers). The matter on which they had on that day assembled to decide was one of the most paramount importance—its effects would not be limited to that empire alone, but the whole world were interested in the decision that the electors should make. They were a jury to decide a most important case—whether they would select a representative whose voice should be raised in the House of Commons in favour of the just rights and interests of the people, or whether they would give more influence to a class of men who had too much power already, and under whose domination thousands of their fellow-countrymen had been reduced to a state of pauperism (cheers).

He then referred to the conduct of the government and the measures which they had introduced. He condemned the Factories bill, the Arms bill, the Irish church establishment, and the general misgovernment of Ireland, and professed himself an advocate of peace. He then announced his political creed.

He would not be a mere follower or supporter of any ministry—of the conservative ministry now existing, or of the whig ministry that was defunct, or of the ministry that must inevitably be formed in a short time, when the present one shall have been trodden under foot (cheers). He came before them to solicit their suffrages on the principles of free trade alone, and, if he should be returned to parliament as their representative, these principles he would advocate in the most emphatic and energetic manner. He had no desire for office; all he wished was to be the representative of the working classes, who were the sinews and the strength of the nation. They had read in history of convulsions and revolutions in states where the monarchy had been overturned, but they had never heard of a revolution which overturned the people; the people would live, though the crown and the aristocracy, and may be the church, be cast down never again to rise.

Mr Bright concluded by saying that from the canvass he had made he had every reason to feel confident that to-morrow night he should be the representative of Durham (loud cheers).

Mr PURVIS then addressed the assembly in favour of himself and principles, amidst considerable interruption. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Mr Bright, and a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr Purvis, which was fixed for Tuesday.

The polling commenced on Tuesday morning, and we are glad to learn from the subjoined statement of our correspondent, that there is a fair prospect of Mr Bright's return.

STATE OF THE POLL.

| Nine o'clock. | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------|-----|
| Bright | 104 | Purvis | 72 |
| Half-past Nine. | | | |
| Bright | 161 | Purvis | 105 |
| Ten o'clock. | | | |
| Bright | 200 | Purvis | 141 |
| Eleven o'clock. | | | |
| Bright | 275 | Purvis | 188 |
| Twelve o'clock. | | | |
| Bright | 308 | Purvis | 222 |
| Half-past Twelve. | | | |
| Bright | 308 | Purvis | 250 |
| One o'clock. | | | |
| Bright | 343 | Purvis | 272 |

Our correspondent adds to the above statement—"I here send you a state of the poll, and have much pleasure in stating, that although Purvis is now gaining, yet it is believed he will not be able to overcome the present majority."

To this may be added the testimony of the correspondent of the *Chronicle*:—

"Up to Saturday night the canvass in favour of Mr Bright went on progressively, though not yielding results to justify sanguine expectations of success, unless through the division that undoubtedly exists among the conservative ranks. The popular enthusiasm is at a high pitch; and a good deal of the prejudice against Mr Bright among the freemen in consequence of his supposed interference against Lord Dungannon, and the attack, as it is regarded, upon their vested rights, has been pretty much subdued."

"The Marquess of Londonderry had given no sort of countenance to Mr Purvis; not a single person connected with the Londonderry interest was upon the hustings at the nomination, although late the night before a deputation waited upon the Marquess, stating that Mr Purvis would certainly be beaten if his lordship did not use positive influence with his dependents in favour of Mr Purvis."

THE RIOTS IN WALES.—Mr Hall, chief magistrate of Bow street police office, leaves town this morning, by the direction of government, for Wales, for the purpose of instituting a rigid and searching inquiry and examination into all the circumstances connected with the "Rebecca riots" and disturbance in that part of the kingdom. We understand Mr Hall will be accompanied by one or more legal gentlemen from London to assist in the inquiry.—*Standard*.

STATE OF SOUTH WALES.—The *Times* correspondent adds further particulars of the late disastrous occurrence:—"I understand that on Saturday night a policeman of Swansea happened to meet a man, named John Jones, of Llettyfulbert, drinking at a public house in Swansea. After some time the man made use of some observations which led the policeman to believe that he had been a participator in

some of the Rebecca movements. This induced the policeman to question him, and at length the man admitted that he had been present at the destruction of three gates; viz., the Bolgoed, Pontydawe, and Llangavallach, and that he could identify the parties concerned. On hearing this the policeman took him into custody, and conveyed him to the station house, when the Mayor being sent for, he underwent a rigid examination, and gave the names of about forty persons, most of them highly respectable farmers, &c., residing near Pontydawe and Llangavallach. Warrants were then granted.

"At 12 o'clock on Saturday night, Captain Napier, superintendent of the county police (late of the rifles), with inspector Rees and two other policemen, left Swansea and proceeded to the hills, where they succeeded in capturing two persons quietly, and brought them into Swansea; they then apprehended a third prisoner, whom they left in the charge of the two policemen, while Captain Napier and Rees went into the house of a farmer named Morgan to arrest the son. They had not been gone into the house a minute before the farmer's wife, Mrs Morgan, threw a saucepan of boiling water over the Captain, which scalded his shoulder, and then attacked him with the saucepan, with which she beat him about the head, and the son, John Morgan, a very powerful young man, having seized a sickle, also attacked Captain Napier with it, and wounded him on the head; a desperate struggle ensued, and Captain Napier drew one of his pistols, which, however, fortunately was not cocked, the hammer being down, for Morgan immediately grasped his wrist, and turning the muzzle of the pistol to Captain Napier's breast, pulled the trigger, but without effect. Finding his life in danger, Captain Napier immediately drew his other pistol and fired, and shot John Morgan, the ball entering the abdomen; the man, however, having recoiled a few paces and felt the wound, immediately renewed the struggle with increased desperation; but the noise of the pistol having alarmed the policemen outside, they rushed into the house, where they found Captain Napier covered with blood, and succeeded in rescuing him, and securing the prisoner, who was brought into Swansea, and conveyed to the infirmary in the gaol, where he was examined by Dr Bird, who found that the ball had entered just above the groin, glanced upwards, striking the upper edge of the ilium, and lodged itself in the back between the second and third rib, from which place Dr Bird succeeded in extracting it."

On Sunday, in the middle of the day, the police, accompanied by the Mayor and two other magistrates, and thirty men of the grenadier company of the 75th regiment of foot, again proceeded to Llangavallach, and apprehended Mrs Morgan, the farmer's wife, and her daughter; and, in the course of the evening, apprehended Mr Vaughan, the postmaster and innkeeper of Pontydawe. The prisoners have been remanded, and the town remains in a state of great excitement.

TROOPS FOR IRELAND.—It is reported here, (Dublin,) in quarters generally well informed, that an intimation has been given to each regiment of the Guards (not extending to the cavalry) to hold itself in immediate readiness for service in Ireland; and it is added, that directions have been received by the several railway companies to have accommodation prepared for the transport of troops with the least possible delay.—*Times Correspondent*.

COLLISION.—The *Evening Mail* says—"An Athlone correspondent, in a letter dated yesterday evening, informs us that the people near the village of Ahascragh, in the county of Galway, were erecting arches on the road to Tuam, where Mr O'Connell was expected to pass on Saturday night, and thus obstructing the highway, when Sir James Mahon, or some other magistrate, having given orders to the police to prevent the obstruction by removing the arches, an attack was made on them by the country people with stones, and the police were obliged to retreat, with one of their men wounded by some sharp instrument."

DEMONSTRATION AT TUAM.—Of this event the *Times* correspondent says—"The second demonstration of this county (Galway) in favour of a repeal of the union took place to-day within two miles of this town. With the exception of being about twice as numerous, it resembled in all other respects its predecessor, which came off at Galway town four weeks ago. The first thing that attracted my attention on approaching Tuam, was the union jack of England floating from one of the spires of the Roman catholic cathedral of 'the lion of the fold of Judah,' which was intended, as I was subsequently informed, to express no separation, while from the cupola of the Market house floated another but less conspicuous flag, bearing the word 'Repeal.' Mr J. Bodkin, M.P., was called to the chair, and Lord Ffrench, Mr Browne, Mr Blake, Mr Burke, &c., addressed the meeting. In reference to the occurrence mentioned above, Mr O'Connell said—

It appeared that the inhabitants of Ahascragh, an insignificant village, about six miles west of Ballinasloe, erected triumphal arches across it, which the police, by order of a magistrate, proceeded to take down. The magistrate might have been right or wrong. If wrong, the law was open to them, and he (Mr O'Connell) promised them that they should not want its protection. But the traitors of Ahascragh, instead of resorting to it, violated it, and violated at the same time the very first principle of the Repeal association, which required that there should be no tumult, no rioting, and no violence of any description (hear). They foully attacked the unfortunate policemen, who were only doing their duty in obedience to orders, pelted them with stones, and most seriously injured one of them. This was cowardly as well as wrong, and calculated deeply to injure the cause they had at heart. He felt so strongly on the subject, that he would blot Ahascragh from the map of Ireland, refuse to allow a single one of its inhabitants to be enrolled upon the books of the association, and have them held up to the detestation of the people of Ireland for having violated the great and beautiful principle of moral force (cheers). What was the consequence of their rash and cowardly conduct? Why, that the enemies of repeal in the neighbourhood of Ahascragh were that day triumphant, while many of those who had taken part in the assault were already in gaol, and would probably be transported. If it were fitting to resort to force he would tell them, and they would all turn out together; but as it was not fitting, and as the law was predominant, he must declare his determination of erasing from the books of the association the name of every man connected with the riot in Ahascragh.

About four hundred gentlemen sat down to dinner. The repeal rent is expected to exceed that of Galway town, which was about £220.

There is no further intelligence of importance from Spain.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY. The supply of English wheat is 1,310 quarters, and of foreign 1,520 quarters; but very little doing.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "N. N." We agree with him in much that is contained in his last letter, but we must frankly confess that his views do not appear to our judgment either so sound in themselves, or so likely to prove interesting to our readers, as to warrant our insertion of them. We did not remember that his first letter was signed "A Chartist."
- "James Humphry's" declined.
- "The Papal and Hierarchical Systems Compared," is already under our attention, and has certainly not been neglected hitherto, because "too nonconforming for the *Nonconformist*."
- "A Subscriber from the Beginning." Easter dues may be legally demanded. The other matter we will endeavour to attend to in our next number.
- "Robert Wakeford." We did not think his letter calculated to answer the end which he has in view. As to "certain friendly connexions" we are wholly in the dark as to his meaning.
- "A Constant Reader." No.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1843.

SUMMARY.

WE have not much to record of the sayings and doings of parliament during the past week. The Irish Arms bill has at length got through committee, and to this the chief attention of the few senators who remain in town has been devoted. Few indeed they appear to be—so few that the House was counted out two successive nights. Ministers have been obliged to take the hint, and to cast overboard the lumber of bills, which either they do not care or cannot hope to carry. Of all the measures which they have laid upon the table of the House, and to which heretofore they attached so great importance, they have now announced their determination to press forward only four—the Irish Arms bill, the Irish Poor Law Amendment bill, the Exportation of Machinery bill, and the Scotch Benefices bill. The Factories bill has been abandoned for the session. The Ecclesiastical Courts bill, and the County Courts bill, have shared the same fate. Nothing could be more humiliating than the position occupied by Sir Robert Peel, when he announced to the House the final intentions of the cabinet. We observe, however, that at this the fag end of the session, hosts of bills are being introduced and pressed forward without discussion. Real business is only just commencing. All that has preceded has been barren talk, party contention, and votes which signify nothing, but the power of the government to rule the House of Commons.

On Monday night a long discussion took place upon the resolutions for the reduction of the Irish spirit duty, after which the Admiralty Lands bill was considered in committee. Lord Ashley then obtained leave to bring in his bill for the encouragement of the field garden or allotment system, and the more general establishment of loan funds. A temporary bill for the legalising of mixed marriages by presbyterians in Ireland, was passed through the House of Lords, and has been read a second time in the House of Commons.

The state of South Wales, to which we have adverted in another place, and the fearful depression existing in the mining districts of Staffordshire, may be set down as some of the first fruits of class legislation. The fearful falling off in our export trade with America, in all its several branches, might surely suffice to warn all but the wilfully blind, that commercial restrictions must be ere long abolished, or commercial interests sacrificed to aristocratic selfishness. We believe the latter alternative will be chosen. In his recent interview with the deputation of ironmasters, Sir Robert Peel gave no hint of attempting to re-open already closed markets by the adoption of free trade, but, lamenting, as is his wont, the sufferings of the people, he ascribed them to causes over which he has no control, and held out no hope of relief from his future policy.

Such relief we do not believe the present government to meditate. Men who are contracting for barracks in Lancashire and Yorkshire, at an expense of £100,000, capable of accommodating 25,000 soldiers, cannot just now be entertaining an idea of trying the cheaper expedient of doing justice to the people. Remedial measures seem to be utterly beyond the grasp of their comprehension. No longer since than last Monday, they despatched fresh troops to Ireland and to Wales. They seem resolved upon maintaining the monopolies they took office to uphold, by overwhelming physical force. They are to cut asunder arguments with the sword—to answer the complaints of a starving

people with leaden bullets. This is, at all events, an expensive mode of governing a nation; and the middle classes, who connive at it by siding with oligarchical rule against complete representation, will, ere long, be called upon to pay dearly for their whistle.

We trust, however, they will discover their mistake, before repentance shall become as unavailing as it will be bitter. Let them read with attention the resolutions just passed by the council of the National Complete Suffrage Union. Let each man for himself seriously determine whether those resolutions do not embody undeniable truth and sound advice; and if convinced by all the signs which thicken around him, that the present system of representation is answerable for the languishing and exhausted condition of the country, let him give his prejudices to the wind, tear his pride to shreds, and instantly unite himself with the friends of complete suffrage, peacefully to overturn the system which is producing such deplorable results.

Mr Cobden is still pursuing successfully his visits to the agricultural districts, and is making vigorous and laudable efforts to open the eyes of the tenant farmers. At Lewes and at Croydon he was not only well received and listened to with attention, but succeeded in carrying free-trade resolutions. The phenomenon is a new one, and we cannot but ask ourselves whereto it will grow. We have not the smallest expectation that the result will come out precisely in the shape anticipated by the leaders of the league. We fear this agitation will not win one county election, but we look upon it with not the less interest on that account. He who puts a new thought into a farmer's mind is sowing to the benefit of the whole nation. If the political serfs in the agricultural districts are not thereby prevailed upon to assert their independence, they will at all events be taught to hate the chain which fetters their free will. In the rural districts, as elsewhere, the labours of the league are preparing the way for the advocates of complete suffrage, are exposing to view the selfishness of aristocratic rule, and are hastening on the day when, galled and borne down by intolerable burdens, this whole nation, as one man, will rise up, as in the days of the Reform bill, and demand with a unanimity not to be denied, a full, fair, and free representation of the people.

The repeal movement in Ireland proceeds, but exhibits no novel features of interest.

Of Spain, we know not how to speak. Mystery hangs over the movements of all parties. The latest accounts, however, wear a more favourable aspect for Espartero. The following is from the *Times* :—

"Narvaez had arrived before Madrid on the 15th. The municipal authorities appear to have been by no means daunted by the appearance of his army. No actual junction was effected with the band under Aspiroz; for that commander had pushed as far southward as Aranjuez to meet Enna, who is, it seems, advancing to the common centre of affairs. In the mean time, Seoane and Zurbano reached Alcala, within six leagues of the capital, on the 18th. Narvaez affected to turn his forces against them, but he did not risk a battle with an army probably far superior to his own; and by the last account, which tallies precisely with the anticipation we yesterday expressed, both the insurgent generals were retreating towards the northern provinces, and Madrid is saved."

THE POLITICAL PHAETON.

WITH an air of unbounded confidence in his own powers, did our Premier step into the chariot of government. His mien was no inapt imitation of the god of wisdom. As he grasped, not without some show of eagerness, the reins of empire, realising in that critical moment the dreams of years, the fire of triumph which blazed in his eye lighted the way to his heart, and revealed to the thoughtful spectator, a deep void which a sense of awful responsibility should have filled, but did not. The fiery steeds whom he essayed to manage, started, as they had been wont to do, in obedience to the uttered will of the charioteer. The rapidity and regularity of his ascent flushed his already excited presumption. The tones of his voice became more authoritative—his bearing less prudential. Having passed the first stage of his venturous flight, not only without accident, but with singular ease, he, like most pretenders, presumed upon past success, instead of keeping a watchful look-out for coming difficulties. The road became steeper as he advanced—the horses restive. Perplexity, unlooked for, meeting him in the way, found him unprepared. Then was displayed the pitiable imbecility of the vain-glorious aspirant. The reins dropped from his hand. The impetuous team, uncontrolled, and abandoned solely to their own instincts, whirl along the passive ruler, who, sitting helpless in his car of state, curses the ambition which prompted him to court a danger for which his powers were wholly unequal. Meanwhile, the lower world—the world of industry, trade, commerce, finance, social order, already suffers, and is menaced with destruction by his devious career. So serious, so extensive, so irreparable is the damage he is inflicting upon all the great interests of the country, that men of all parties, probably not excepting himself, begin to hope that, in mercy to the nation, as well as to

the bewildered leader of the government, his chariot may be overturned, and his own fall from power may be hastened.

As there is sometimes sublimity in silence, so is there occasionally a moral grandeur in "doing nothing." We can readily call up to our mind's eye, aided by the lights of history, a combination of circumstances which, produced by the operation of some deep providential law, might defy all the efforts of human wisdom to control or modify. The statesman who, in such a conjuncture, should stop his ears to the solicitations of ignorance, set his face as a flint against the frowns of impatience, and, refusing to tamper with causes beyond his reach, magnanimously resolve upon standing still, would display all the attributes of true greatness. But when, as now, the difficulties with which the government has to cope are not organic, but adventitious—spring not from the ordination of Heaven, but from the selfish legislation of man—strike down their roots, not into the substantial resources of the country, but only into the superficial soil of political party—when, as now, it wants not gigantic wisdom to save the nation, but a determined will—not genius, but honesty—not power, but courage—we cannot find language strong enough to set the brand of contempt upon the miserable imbecility of our present rulers.

Mark the results of their policy, or rather, of their entire want of policy! The financial embarrassments of government—the least of the evils which beset us—becoming fairly inextricable. Our staple manufactures crumbling into ruin. Tenant farmers sinking into insolvency. Trade at a standstill. In England, symptoms which forebode another universal strike. Wales haunted by invisible depredators. Ireland, taking the conduct of its affairs clean out of the hands of civil authority. Union houses choked with able-bodied inmates. Barracks crowded with soldiers. Bankruptcy careering from one end of the land to another. Distress assailing all classes. Confidence, not in this government merely, but in any and every government upon the present system, clean gone. The church, eyed, in the three nations, with grim detestation. The House of Lords looked at as a nullity. The House of Commons unutterably despised. The constituent bodies believed to be tainted with corruption beyond the possibility of cure. Toryism worn out. Whiggism too feeble to take its place. And what was once called radicalism, a burst bubble. Such are the mingled elements of present confusion, and, if we mistake not, of not distant convulsion. A pretty scene of devastation has our modern Phaeton produced. And amidst it all—timid, hesitating, trembling—a vamped-up pretence—a smiling, voice-uttering, finessing nonentity—stands Sir Robert Peel, and with empirical solemnity, announces to the world that he can "do nothing."

What an extraordinary parliamentary session is that now drawing to a close—a session whose parallel is not to be found in the annals of history! If ever the course of events called for comprehensive and vigorous legislation, it has been during the present year. If ever government occupied a position which put it into their power to attempt great things, and to do much, the existing government did so. The result, did it not draw after it a train of consequences so deplorable, would be absolutely ludicrous. The routine of business pushed through with indecent haste, but not a single remedial measure laid on the table. At length, as Easter approaches, a show of doing something is made. The Factories bill is introduced—within the walls of St Stephen's, all parties hail it with satisfaction. Not so out of doors. Down from every quarter of the empire rushes "a deluge of petitions" against it. It is remodeled, and insidiously extended in a new form as an "olive branch." Again the House is satisfied, and again it is denounced by public indignation. It is withdrawn, and appears in a third and much humbler guise—and again it provokes dissatisfaction so unmistakable that it is at length abandoned altogether. The Ecclesiastical Courts bill—but why need we go into detail? Let our readers turn to the parliamentary reports of last week, and watch Sir Robert Peel, the leader of the strong majority, drink the cup of humiliation to the dregs, as he announced to the House, the few and trifling measures he meant to carry, and the many he would suffer to drop into present, if not ultimate, oblivion! The pride of power never lowered its crest more ignominiously.

It now remains with the people to determine how much longer the delusion is to be maintained. If "nothing" suffices to satisfy them, why, they have it and are likely to keep it. The whigs can do nothing—the tories will do nothing. We may consequently make up our minds to a considerable interval of the dead-lock policy. Meanwhile, however, distress is not inactive, if ministers are. Ruin stays not its approach because they fold their arms. The end is beginning to be clearly discernible. Feudalism has come to within a hand's-breadth of the end of its career. A mere negation cannot charm into immobility the progress of actual events. After the darkness of a long night, the dawn of day streaks the eastern horizon. It be-

hoves every friend of the people to be astir in earnest. Time is rapidly developing an opportunity for efficient action, such as may never again occur. To educate the public mind for the coming crisis, becomes the solemn duty of every one who wishes well to his country, the urgent interest of all who would preserve property and order. Let nothing be put off which can be equally well done now. We shall soon want all the energy, all the intelligence, all the organisation, and we may add, all the funds, that we can, by legitimate means, make ourselves master of. With renewed zeal, then, let us go to work, to multiply to ourselves these resources. They will not need to remain long unused. The fall of our modern Phaeton is at no remote distance—and, immediately upon his fall, the last struggle between the feudal and the democratic principles may be expected to commence.

THE UNPAID STEWARD.

THE House of Commons is evidently approaching its period of hybernation. Not the most stirring events can succeed in keeping it awake above a week together. Just in proportion as the public mind becomes agitated, does the body professing to be faithfully representative of it exhibit symptoms of drowsiness. Party debates, in which the people take no interest, and which they have long since ceased to read, draw full houses. National embarrassment, indicated by a thousand unequivocal signs, and now threatening, at no distant period, national confusion, cannot induce a sufficient number of members to assemble, to carry on the ordinary business of the country. Twice, last week, was the House of Commons caught napping—twice counted out. At a time when the political horizon is more than ordinarily portentous, when serious difficulties are springing up, one after another, in the path of government, not of one kind only, but of many kinds—at a moment when treason is declared by the Lord Chancellor to be "stalking from one end to the other of Ireland, in open day"—when Wales is disquieted, and military bands mount guard over union workhouses and turnpike gates, and when miners' strikes in England are menacing a repetition of the scenes of last August, two nights out of five in the week are spent in idleness, and out of six hundred and fifty-eight members of our most important legislating body, not forty are found sufficiently impressed with a sense of their responsibility to make a house.

Several causes may be assigned for this outrageous violation of political decorum. Our so-called representatives are, for the most part, men whose main vocation is pleasure. In pursuit of this they are both provident and laborious. The turf never has to complain of their absence. We do not hear that gorgeous dinner parties are falling into disuse amongst them. The ball room misses them not. When the season for grouse shooting approaches, suitable preparation must needs be made for a campaign against the luckless birds. These are matters of moment to our legislators. What is there to detain them in town? Monopoly is safe for the session—the supplies are voted. All else is but trifling in their judgment. What care they for appearances? Did they not buy their constituents? How, then, can their constituents call them to account? Have they not lost every shred of character for patriotism? Why, then, should they pretend to a virtue their want of which it is clearly impossible for them to conceal? Real work is at all times irksome to them, because altogether foreign to their habits. Peel has no measures to propose. The people have no party in the house to prove troublesome; and so, leaving the troubled nation to take care of itself, they hurry off, some to the continent, some to their country seats—these to a watering place, those to make ready for sport-ing. They seem to have heard the old proclamation—

"Ye sons of Indolence! do what you will,
And wander where you list, through hall or glade!
Be no man's pleasure for another stayed!
Let each as likes him best his hours employ!
And curs'd be he who minds his neighbour's trade!"
They have heard, and gladly they obey. The poet shall describe the result—

"Straight, of these endless numbers, swarming round,
As thick as idle motes in sunny ray,
Not one oftsoons in view was to be found,
But every man stroll'd off his own glad way."

Amongst the various points included in "complete suffrage," payment of members has excited most ridicule, and has drawn down upon its advocates the bitterest expressions of contempt. Parliament, however, is doing its best to redeem the opinion from obloquy. It is becoming more apparent, every week, that they who undertake to do the work of legislation, for the honour of it only, are chiefly anxious to secure for themselves and their families nice pickings out of the public purse, and are by no means careful to do more work than suits the tastes and habits of born gentlemen. Unpaid workmen are usually slovenly workmen. Such is the case in the present instance. Members come when they please, go when they list, and attend to business no further than is found congruous with their personal gratification.

Having voted the supplies, which is, in fact, filling the reservoir out of which their own estates are watered, they consider themselves at liberty. The state of the nation concerns them—not much. They would leave, at any time, a country bordering on insurrection, for grouse shooting and the chase. And, for a full month preceding the 10th of August, their early numbers are so thinned, that it becomes a matter of no difficulty to count out the house twice or thrice a week. Such is the wisdom of our present system. These are amongst the advantages of keeping "an unpaid steward."

THE FREAKS OF REBECCA.

SOUTH Wales, notwithstanding the confidence of the *Welshman*, which, like Nelson at Copenhagen, puts a telescope to its blind eye, and declares that it can see nothing, is now clearly shown to be the seat of a secret, extensive, and dangerous confederation. A serious affray has taken place between the constabulary and a large body of these midnight depredators, ending in the capture of eight of the rioters, but not without bloodshed on both sides. We quote from a leading article in yesterday's *Times* the following description:—

"Captain Napier, who commanded the constabulary, was compelled, in self-defence, to fire upon one of his prisoners, and was himself seriously wounded in the encounter. Meanwhile, the movements of Rebecca in other parts appear to be conducted with a degree of caution and vigour, which bids fair to eclipse the renown of the rival agitator in Ireland. A troop of dragoons defile along the road undisturbed—all is silent—all is peaceable to appearance; but no sooner are they gone than a rocket is sent up, bonfires are kindled on the tops of the hills, and 'instant from copse and heath arose,' not exactly 'bonnets and spears and banded bows,' but still something nearly as bad—a thousand men, bent on mischief, and able to accomplish it; and, what is worse, as soon as the work of destruction is over, no trace can be found of the perpetrators of it. They are gone—down coalpits and elsewhere, and disappear as quickly as they appeared. Surely such scenes as these bespeak an organisation no less dangerous from its future tendencies than it has already become from the hopeless and heartless stupidity of those whose folly has occasioned it."

The formidable organisation which these desperate proceedings indicate, speaks trumpet-tongued of the wide-spread miseries inflicted upon this once peaceful country, by general and local misgovernment. The tenant farmers, equally with the mining population, have been oppressed beyond the limits of Cambrian endurance. The church here, as elsewhere, would seem to have been a main agent in grinding down the people to helpless and hopeless ruin. Much as we deplore and condemn the means resorted to by the miserable victims of misrule, to work out their deliverance, we cannot, with reason, be surprised at them. The idea has got abroad, and is rapidly gaining ground amongst the masses, that the only way to secure redress of grievances is to make the government uneasy. This is one of the natural results of the *laissez faire* policy of Sir Robert Peel. Real and undeniable evils, heartlessly left without the smallest attempt at remedy, inevitably ripen into active causes of disorder. Soldiers may quell a tumult—activity and severity may detect and crush secret confederation—but a government, which deliberately turns its back on justice to the people, can expect nothing less than a perpetual and harassing employment of troops, and, unless it alter its course in time, its own ultimate and disgraceful downfall. Providence has ordained that tyranny cannot be enacted in security.

In an article written at the close of the disturbances which, last year, agitated our manufacturing districts to their very centre, we took the liberty of reminding the middle classes of the cost they must pay for the maintenance of an oligarchy. The scenes which are now taking place in Wales, and the startling progress of the Miners' association in the North of England, give fresh meaning to the following passage, which we extract from the leading article of August 31:—"The dangers of periodical visitations of this nature is not to be warded off by a vigorous executive, nor can wide-spread disaffection be cured by military precautions, or a trained and numerous police. It cannot be questioned, indeed, that government may command such an array of organised physical force as shall effectually prevent any violent ebullition of political feeling; but alienation of mind from our existing institutions will remain fermenting among the masses, and will, probably, make more *furtive* mischief than could have resulted from its open expression. Dispersive means may hinder the disease from showing itself upon the surface of the body politic, in confluent sores; but the malady, thus driven in, may take a more dangerous, and far more unmanageable form; and the violent suppression of insurrection, unaccompanied by constitutional change, may, hereafter, prove anything but the wisest method of securing the safety of property."

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE WEST.—Orders have been received by the naval authorities at Plymouth to have everything in a state of preparation to receive her Majesty and Prince Albert, in the event of her Majesty visiting this port, which it is anticipated will be the case next month.—*Western Times*.

On Thursday night the Queen paid a "state" visit to the opera, attended by Prince Albert and a numerous suite. The house was gorgeously fitted up for the occasion.

On Monday evening the Queen gave a state ball at Buckingham palace. It was numerously attended by the nobility and aristocracy of the west end.

THE LATE DUKE OF SUSSEX.—The following is a correct statement of the amount realised by the property of the late Duke:—Plate and plated articles, £20,752 15s. 5d.; decorative furniture, £3,984 1s. 6d.; trinkets, rings, and seals, £2,473 2s.; snuff-boxes and bonbonnières, £2,238 12s. 6d.; clocks and watches, £1,994 5s.; swords, pistols, and sticks, £1,092 1s. 6d.; pipes, tobacco, and cigars, £3,617 9s. 6d.; bijouterie, £802 1s. 8d.; miniatures and pictures, £759 1s.

There are doubts whether the valuable collection of Bibles and of rare manuscripts and books, constituting the library of the late Duke of Sussex, will be submitted for public competition or not, as the King of Naples has entered into negotiations for the purchase of the collection.

THE ARMY.—The Duke of Wellington is prepared to concentrate the troops in Ireland, and all the small detachments will be called in. Barracks, long unoccupied, are ordered to be furnished for the accommodation of troops, and stations where of late only a company was quartered will have a complete regiment. Far more is doing to place the country in a state to be defended than merely meets the eye. Troops are at the most convenient points for transmission; and we know that arms and ammunition are disposed of at safe places in this country for their being sent over when required. The regiments which have returned from India within the present month are very strong, but after having discharged their diseased and worn-out men they will be considerably under the establishment of 800 men. The 26th is to go to Scotland; the 41st, it is said, will shortly be sent into the north-west district, and the 49th, on their arrival, to take their place at Canterbury for a short season only.—*Naval and Military Gazette*.

ROYAL SAPPERS AND MINERS.—Woolwich, July 24.—The 1st company, and nearly all that remains of the 2d company, at Woolwich, have received orders to embark at Roff's wharf, on one of the Woolwich steamboat company's vessels, at the early hour of half-past two o'clock to-morrow (Tuesday) morning, to be conveyed to Hungerford market, whence they will march to Euston square, and proceed by railway to Liverpool as the quickest route to Ireland. The number of this corps sent to Ireland from this quarter will not leave above 30 effective men to do duty at Woolwich, and there are not many recruits at head quarters at present to afford their aid on the occasion.

THE IRONMASTERS' DEPUTATION.—The deputation of the ironmasters from South Staffordshire had a long interview on Wednesday morning, by appointment, with Sir Robert Peel, for the purpose of presenting a memorial from that district, setting forth the extreme state of depression under which the iron trade is at present labouring, and the condition of the working population. The progressive reductions in the prices of iron, the rate of wages, and the state of pauperism, as exhibited in the enormous increase of the poor rates in the unions comprised in that district, were stated in extensive detail by members of the deputation, and the operations of the American and the various continental tariffs were adduced, as acting most prejudicially on the iron trade of this country. It was explained that a strong impression prevailed that the great falling off in the exportation of commodities to the United States, resulting from the restrictions of the late American tariff, was mainly attributable to the continued exclusion of American corn by the operation of the late adjustment under our own tariff, and which a moderate fixed duty would be calculated to remove. In conformity with this view, Mr Thornley stated the result of his impressions on a recent visit to the United States, and the improbability of any treaty being negotiated without some modification of our corn laws on this point. Sir R. Peel stated that he should most willingly give his best attention to any remedies that might suggest themselves to the mind of the deputation, but that he feared the production of iron had been forced by the requirements for railroads and other causes so much beyond the ordinary demand, that now that these sources of consumption had been supplied, he could hold out no prospect of immediate improvement from any measures within the power of government.

THE STEEL REGIMEN.—Lancashire is about, it is said, to become "the principal military depot of the kingdom." Government has just entered into a contract for the erection of barracks at Manchester, at a cost of £100,000, for the accommodation of 2,000 infantry and 2,000 cavalry. Extensive barracks are also in progress of erection at Ashton, Bury, and other towns; and when the whole are completed, it is said there will be permanent accommodation in Lancashire for an army of twenty-five thousand men. It is also said to be in contemplation to erect barracks sufficient for the accommodation of a large army at Halifax, in Yorkshire. Leeds is on the outskirts of the manufacturing district, and the troops stationed there are supposed to be too much out of the way to be of much use in the prompt suppression of any rebellion or insurrection, which might chance to break out in the country. Halifax is nearly in the centre of the manufacturing population of Yorkshire, and it will be there, most probably, where the barracks for the accommodation of the Yorkshire army will be erected.—*Leeds Times*.

PROVINCIAL.

MR COBDEN IN SUSSEX.—The farmers of Sussex received another visit from Mr Cobden on Tuesday last. Lewes was the place of meeting, and a large audience were assembled. Mr H. B. Curteis, M.P., occupied the chair. Mr Cobden addressed the meeting in his usual effective style, and was succeeded by Mr Elphinstone, M.P. A resolution in favour of free trade was proposed, and previous to putting which the chairman, with permission, made a speech against the motion, and in favour of a fixed duty. Mr Cobden, in reply, said he thought a vanishing duty of 8s. might upset the League, but the fact was the aristocracy would give nothing until compelled to give all [hear, hear]. The Chairman put the resolution, and every hand appeared to be raised in its favour: he remarked that it became his duty to declare it carried, only two hands having been held up against it, and both of them belonging to one person [loud cheers and laughter]. Votes of thanks to Mr Cobden and the chairman were then carried.

MR COBDEN.—It is anticipated that shortly after his visit to Hereford, which will take place on Wednesday next, Mr Cobden will pay a visit to Worcester, for the purpose of addressing the farmers and others in favour of free trade. The hon. member may be expected on an early day in August.—*Worcester Chronicle*. [On Friday Mr Cobden meets the agriculturists of Essex at Chelmsford.]

ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETING AT CROYDON.—Mr Cobden, Colonel Thompson, and other members of the League, visited Croydon on Saturday, to discuss the question of the corn laws with the farmers who attended the market. The Town hall was chosen for the place of meeting, but being soon crowded, the meeting, in spite of a drenching rain, adjourned to the haymarket. The platform was covered in, but the sturdy men of Surrey seemed determined to hear all that could be said to them upon a subject so deeply interesting to them; and, although frequent heavy showers must have wetted them to the skin, they remained anxious spectators of the whole proceedings. Mr Alcock was called to the chair, and expressed himself favourable to free trade. Mr Cobden then addressed the meeting at great length, and was followed by Mr Fife, on the other side, who occasioned much interruption by speaking beside the question. The following is the conclusion of his speech:—

The democracy of America were keen-sighted in matters concerning their own interest.

A Voice: We want to know about ourselves [laughter].

Another Voice: You had better leave off. You would have done very well if you had stopped when you had done about Brazil [loud laughter and cheers].

Mr Fife: I think you will agree with me.

A Voice: I think not [renewed laughter and interruption].

Mr Fife: It cannot be to your interest to allow yourselves to be deceived. This is a question of great importance to you all. If the experiment of free trade should be a failure—

A Voice: Things could not be worse [cheers, and cries for Colonel Thompson].

Mr Fife: I say that the experiment of free trade may prove a failure. It has never been tried in any country [cries of "Switzerland"]. I shall not attempt to make myself heard any more. It is evident there is a certain proportion of this meeting who dare not hear the truth [derisive laughter and hisses].

Mr Fife then retired.

A resolution in favour of free trade was then proposed and seconded: after which, Colonel Thompson spoke in his usual forcible, pungent, and humorous style. Mr Grathard, a working man, said he was as much a free trader as Mr Cobden, and would go further than him; but if they wanted to abolish all protection, they must give the franchise to their labourers as well as themselves; and he told the straight collars round him that they must soon go into the ranks of Mr Sturge and the complete suffrage. Mr Sturge had gone into the manufacturing towns, and had told them that they had no power against the aristocracy, except by giving the people the franchise ["We must have that next time, give us bread first"]. He was at length put down by the meeting. Some other persons followed on the same side, opposing the repeal of the corn laws altogether. The following resolution was then submitted:—

"Resolved—That a repeal of the corn and provision laws, under existing circumstances, would prove highly injurious to the people of this country, seeing that it must ruin the farmers, tradesmen, and shopkeepers, and consequently bring the agricultural labourers to beggary and want, by throwing the land out of cultivation; and this assembly is fully persuaded that the cause of all the evils under which the working and trading classes of this country labour, is the defective state of the representation of the people in the Commons house of parliament; and the only mode of removing those evils is by the establishment of a government composed of the wise and the good of every class, devising the best possible means of benefiting the whole."

Mr Cobden stated, that when the proper time came for discussing an extension of the franchise, he should be prepared to act; but he maintained that this was not the time; that these men, if they meant to discuss that point, should do it in meetings of their own; and that they should not, by a course of proceeding such as they had in this instance adopted, oppose those who were disposed to be friends, and so further the ends and objects of their opponents, and the adversaries of freedom [cheers]. The Chairman then put the question, when the original resolution was carried amidst loud cheers, the amendment being supported by about seven persons only.

AMERICAN SLAVERY.—On Wednesday evening, a numerous meeting was held in the Temperance hall, Ipswich, for the purpose of hearing addresses on the subject of American slavery, by the Rev. J. W. Pennington, of Hartford, Connecticut; and Mr W. Johnston, of New York, secretary of the Vigilance committee for the protection of the fugitive slaves,

and their conveyance to the British colony of Canada. D. Alexander, Esq., took the chair. S. Ray, Esq., said that Mr Clarkson had placed in his hands the copy of a letter he had addressed to several members of parliament and other influential persons, and wished him to make any use of it he might think proper at that meeting. The object of Mr Clarkson's letter was to present to view the effect the Ashburton or Washington treaty would be likely to produce on the condition and circumstances of the poor people who now form a colony, or those fugitives who from time to time might be added to their number. It was desirable that the whole case should be brought forward at a general public meeting, with a view to petition both houses of parliament, and this it was Mr Clarkson's most earnest desire should take place, and for which he was quite prepared. The object of the meeting that evening was to increase as much as possible a moral feeling in behalf of the slave, and to obtain aid for the relief of those who endeavour to escape from bondage. Mr W. Johnston then addressed the meeting at some length. Mr Pennington was not present. Votes of thanks were then passed, and collections made at the doors.

DURHAM ELECTION.—On the one side is Mr Purvis, a chancery barrister, and a conservative; on the other, Mr Bright, the celebrated free trade advocate and complete suffragist. Of the prospects of the two parties, the *Morning Herald* says—

Mr Purvis commenced his canvass on Monday. His canvass books exhibit, we learn, a list of promises which totally preclude the possibility of any other conservative candidate starting with chances of success half so good. Several of the electors, who at the last contest voted for Leaguer Bright, have, we understand, given their support on this occasion to Mr Purvis. The contest is conducted by Mr Purvis and his friends on principles of the strictest purity. The Quaker Bright has, however, great strength in Durham amongst the low radicals and Lambton whigs; and when the number of votes (405) which he polled at the last election, without a canvass, is considered, it is obvious that the greatest unanimity and energy amongst the conservatives are indispensable to Mr Purvis's return.

Mr Purvis addressed the electors from his lodgings, on Monday, in the old style. An extract from his address will suffice as a sample of the whole:—

MR PURVIS, on appearing at the window, called for three cheers, which were feebly given, he acting as fag-man. He said: "Lord Dungannon's being unseated has brought me into my present position. This is a most triumphant and proud day for me. I have been received in Durham with the strongest enthusiasm. I have nailed my colours to the mast; and come what blue there may, here I am, and I will support the cause to the last. I have been received enthusiastically. They all voted for me [a voice: The poll has not come yet]. The promises I have received make my election certain; and I have got the women with me—every one. I have seen their smiles; I have seen their eyes; and I know, from their very looks, they have told me that they are all for me. And how can a cause, supported by the beauty of Durham, fail? We cannot fail. I am told there never was such a canvass in Durham before. This is the proudest day of my life; and I believe the conduct pursued to Lord Dungannon has caused me to be placed in the proud situation in which I now stand [a voice: What are you? what are your principles?]. I am asked what my political principles are. You have got them all in my hand-bills; read my hand-bills, and you will see what they are; and no man, who asks me what my political principles are, can be ignorant of what they are [They're not worth anything]. Probably not; but they are in my hand-bills; and whoever may come—Mr Bright, or any other—I will meet and triumph over them in the good cause. Let us give three cheers for the good old cause [cheers and groans]."

"The good old cause," however, seems scarcely to go down, even with the electors of Durham. In reference to his assertion, that "he had got the women with him," a clever quib has been issued, which has produced a great effect in Durham. Meanwhile, Mr Bright has been unremitting in his exertions. On Monday he commenced an active canvass, and has been daily addressing the electors on behalf of the principles he represents. His success, however, is, according to the accounts of a correspondent, "very uncertain;" the freemen being somewhat opposed to him, on account of his exposure of the system of "head money." In addition to this, the whole legion of cathedral authorities, from the highest to the lowest, will strain every nerve for his opponent; and the influence of the Marquis of Londonderry will, doubtless, notwithstanding his disappointment, be brought to bear in the same direction. The nomination was to take place on Monday.

TAVISTOCK.—IRISH AFFAIRS.—At a public meeting called by the portreeve, on the 22nd instant, the following petition to the House of Commons was unanimously voted:—

"That your petitioners deeply feel that the guilt which has generally attended the conquests of nations hangs heavily on England, as regards her conduct towards Ireland, and are fully convinced that a heavy debt of compensation to the inhabitants of that injured country has been entailed upon us by past oppression and misrule."

"Your petitioners would be unjust towards the Irish people and to themselves did they not, at this important and awful crisis, earnestly pray that you will reject coercive measures in general, and the Irish Arms bill in particular, the attempting to enforce which your petitioners strongly fear may cause a lamentable effusion of the blood of our brethren, unless the people of Ireland should be enabled to persevere in their present abstinence from physical force and intoxicating liquors; and your petitioners, in conclusion, pray that you will lose no time in devising measures for putting the Irish in possession of their just religious and political rights, as until this is done it is wrong to expect them to be quiet and contented."

The sentiments of the meeting were decidedly opposed to all religious establishments, and expressed

its entire approbation of the parliamentary conduct of its lately elected representative, J. S. Trelawney, Esq.

IRISH ARMS BILL.—A petition to the House of Commons against this obnoxious bill has been lying for signature in Rochdale, and has received nearly 5,000 signatures. It was presented last week by the worthy representative of the borough.

"COPY OF PETITION."

"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled."

"The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Borough of Rochdale,

"Humbly sheweth,—That your petitioners view with feelings of indignation and alarm, the present attempts to coerce the expression of public opinion in Ireland, by a perpetuation of that barbarous system of legislation which has too long disturbed the peace of that unhappy country; and do, therefore, most earnestly entreat that all such attempts may be abandoned, and that your future policy may be characterised by justice and impartiality."

"Your petitioners hold the Arms bill to be unconstitutional, and insulting to a peaceable and loyal people, and pray that it may never pass into a law."

"Your petitioners regard with apprehension and astonishment the warlike preparations with which Ireland is threatened, and implore that the tranquillity of that country may not be interrupted by the interference of the military."

"Your petitioners also pray that the Irish state church may be abolished, that the catholic may enjoy equal privileges with the protestant, and that Ireland may be placed on a footing of perfect equality with England."

"And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

—*Manchester Times*.

THE STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICTS.

The correspondent of the *Times* furnishes information as to the state of matters in the mining districts of Staffordshire:—

In South Staffordshire the course pursued by the deputation (indeed this was avowed in their memorial previously published) and the result of the conference with ministers are just what was to be anticipated. The state of the currency was known to be the staple ground of complaint, and with that question it must be obvious Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues would never be induced to meddle. Such has proved to be the fact. The coal and ironmasters (of whom it must be admitted a great majority are paper currency men) are deeply mortified. They declare if the premier is determined to pursue his policy, they are determined to pursue theirs, and, contrary to his advice, they must further reduce wages and curtail labour. This is the only chance, they say, left to them, and this is a very sorry one.

But the most startling circumstance with which I have become acquainted to-day is the expressed determination of two of the largest establishments situate to the west of Dudley, in the course of the next fortnight, still further to reduce the wages of their colliers. Within the last two or three weeks, as before stated, the thick coal getters have been reduced from 3s. 6d. to 3s. per day, and now it is intended to reduce them still further from 3s. to 2s. 6d. Nor is this all. The ironmaster from whom I learnt this fact declares, that should business take no favourable turn, and he anticipates none, he and other masters, whose names he mentioned, will be compelled, however reluctantly, to pursue this downward course of destruction. Such is the condition of South Staffordshire at this moment—such the gloomy prospects of the mining population of this densely crowded neighbourhood! That the active capitalist and the workmen will alone be the sufferers from the present state of the trade, cannot be expected; practical men, we are therefore informed, are turning their attention to such further reduction as, irrespective of wages, can be made in the cost of production.

It is satisfactory to state, that amidst the state of suffering and privation now prevalent in the districts, no acts of violence have yet been committed. It is true that some half-dozen of the turn-out colliers have been apprehended for intimidatory begging, but beyond the commission of these offences, the county has been happily free from personal outrages.

The county constabulary is on the alert, and every precautionary measure is being taken by the aristocracy to put down anything like insubordination.

STATE OF SOUTH WALES.

The intelligence received day by day from the southern districts of the principality assumes a more alarming character. The trials of the "Rebeccaes" did not, after all, take place at the Carmarthen assizes, in consequence of the impression that the ends of justice would be frustrated by the decision of a jury from the county in which the riots took place. The proceedings have been removed by *certiorari* into the court of Queen's Bench. The *Times* correspondent thus remarks on the organisation of Rebecca's daughters:—

"It is more and more believed that men, not of education only, but of rank, are concerned in them. This derives considerable probability from the obvious skill and unity with which the operations of the rioters are planned and executed; and it adds not a little to the seriousness with which they deserve to be regarded. Without a head from the upper classes no rising of the people has ever proved permanently formidable."

This is suggested by its reporter's letter of Wednesday, which details some remarkable circumstances. The dragoons were in the saddle every night scouring the country, but they always happened to be in the wrong place. On Tuesday they went to Langewilly; and while they were there, a small party of rioters entered the town of Kidwelly, eight miles from Carmarthen, and demolished a toll-house and gates; not a soul interfering among hundreds of inhabitants. At the same time, Prendergast gate at Haverfordwest was destroyed while the military were in the town, not a single person giving the least hint of what was going on. At Newcastle Emlyn, on Saturday, a gate, which had been thrice re-elected, was found to have been entirely removed. Government continued to pour troops into the district, yet not a single outrage had been stayed, nor a

single Rebeccaite captured. They laugh at the display of power by the government; and, from its being a question of tolls, it has now become one of general grievances. Notices are now daily issued as to rents, and are being served on the landlords, not only in this county, but in the adjoining ones. In his communication for Monday's *Times*, their correspondent says:—

"Since my last communication I have been almost constantly in the saddle—the stirring scenes around me have been so numerous, and in such a variety of directions. Instead of being awed by the presence of the military, the doings of Rebecca become more daring, and the disorganisation of society here more apparent. It is, however, equally strange, that except where the outrages are actually being committed, an apparently profound peace reigns, and persons can travel through the country in perfect security.

"The assizes at Carmarthen terminated yesterday by the discharge of sixty of the Rebeccaites, against whom no bills had been presented, and by the bail of twelve persons being enlarged in consequence of the writ of *certiorari*.

"His lordship, in discharging the grand jury, stated that, although the writs of *certiorari* had removed the trials into the court of Queen's Bench, it was probable that the parties would not be tried in England, but that a special commission would be issued for their trial here.

He then goes on to relate various interesting facts. With his own eyes, while travelling through the country, he saw several gates destroyed. A somewhat daring adventure is best related in his own words:—

"While I was in Llandilo last evening, I obtained some information that there was to be a secret meeting of the Rebeccaites somewhere between this place and Llandovery, and although told it would be most dangerous for me to do so, I resolved, if possible, to be present at it, and personally observe their proceedings. I accordingly had a horse saddled, and having proceeded for some few miles on the road, (it was by this time about eight o'clock at night,) I learned that the intended meeting was to be held at a place about a mile off the main road, called Cwm Ivor, or Ivor's Dingle; and having left my horse at the roadside public-house, I walked to the spot. At that time there was only one person present, who was walking in the burying-ground of the chapel of the little hamlet. As the evening closed in, however, the farmers, &c., could be seen approaching by the various bridle-paths, and down the mountain sides, until at length, I should say, 300 persons were present. I was naturally looked upon as an object of suspicion and mistrust; but, having entered into conversation with one of these persons, I informed him fairly that my whole object was to obtain correct information as to the state of the country and the various proceedings now going on; that I represented one of the London newspapers, and that, if they had grievances, the very best course would be their publication, by which means every one would be able to judge of the justice of their complaints. At my suggestion he agreed to communicate this to the meeting in Welsh, and hear what they said to it. While I remained at a distance, a debate ensued between them for some minutes; and at length I was informed that they intended adjourning to the adjoining school-room, where I should be expected explicitly to state what I had told him, and they would then judge whether I might or might not be present. They adjourned accordingly; two candles were lit, and the school-room was filled to suffocation, besides the steps leading to it and the ground outside. A chairman was chosen, and stated fairly that I had no other object than to gain information correctly, and pledged my word of honour that I came there with no other purpose than that of reporting to the paper with which I was connected. The chairman then, after some objections had been made, put it to the meeting, and the show of hands decided that I should be present. The proceedings of the meeting then commenced, and speeches which had been reduced to writing were read in the Welsh language. They all told the same tale of the poverty of the people, and of the grievances which they suffered. Rents, it was declared, should be lowered, the tolls altered, and the infamous Poor-law abolished, and for these purposes it was proposed that they form unions or lodges."

One of the speakers read the following document in Welsh:—

"To the conductors of the convention appointed to be held at Cwm Ivor, in the parish of Llandilo, in the county of Carmarthen, on Thursday, the 20th day of July, in the first year of Rebecca's exploits, A.D. 1843.

"To concur and inquire into the grievances complained of by the people, and to adopt the best method of avoiding the surprising deprivations that exist, and the eternal vigilance of our superintendents which is the price of our liberty.

"We wish to reduce the prices (taxes), and secure our blessings. An army of principles will penetrate where an army of soldiers cannot.

"Power usurped is weak when opposed. The public interest depends upon our compliance to examine the cause of the calamity, and unveil the corruptions to Rebecca, &c.

"The following resolutions agreed, and intend to recommend to your future aspect by us whose names are here subscribed at foot, being householders within the above heretofore mentioned parish.

"1. To level all petty gates and gate posts connected with by-ways and bridle-roads, or any roads repaired by the parishioners.

"Also, coals, lime, and grains taken to market be exempted from tolls.

"2. The motive is the abolition of heavy tithe and rent-charge in lieu of tithe.

"3. The abolition of church-rates.

"4. A total alteration of the present poor law.

"5. An equitable adjustment of landlord's rent.

"6. Not to allow or grant any Englishman to have the privilege of a steward or governor in South Wales.

"7. If any man rents his neighbour's farm treacherously, we must acquaint the lady, and endeavour to encourage her exertions wherever she wishes for us to execute our phenomena and combat.

"8. To request the farmers not to borrow any money on purpose to pay unlawful demands; and if the result be that some person or persons will annoy any one by plundering and sacrifice their goods in respect to such charge, we must protect them and diminish their exploits of agonism.

"9. That a committee of the privy council must be held when necessary, and all persons under the age of eighteen years are not admitted into it. Neither women nor any of the female sex shall be introduced into this selected assembly, except Rebecca and Miss Cromwell."

This document was received with great applause, and it appeared to meet the universal feeling of the meeting. It was then agreed that a committee should be formed, and that no farmer in the country

should be allowed to take the farm which had been vacated by another without the sanction of the committee; and that if any did so he must take the consequences. Four persons, also, were appointed to make rules to carry out these objects, to be agreed to at a future meeting to be held at another place; and the meeting separated at about a quarter past eleven at night.

Such was the state of affairs up to Sunday, when events of a more alarming character occurred. On Friday information reached Carmarthen that it was intended to make attacks on several gates during the night, and that the village of Portrhyd had been threatened to be set on fire. Colonel Love immediately issued orders for the dragoons to patrol the whole of the roads leading to the places threatened, and for this purpose they were divided into six sections, who at once scoured the roads from Llandovery, Llandillo, and around Carmarthen. The reporter for the *Times* accompanied them, and gives the following graphic description of the alarming scenes he witnessed:—

"The troop had not, however, traversed more than three miles on the road from Carmarthen, before it became evident that they were watched from the hill tops, and shortly after two signal guns were heard. A place called the Old Railway is the centre of some coal works, and as we passed it, it was understood that a large meeting was to be held, and was probably then holding, in the coal levels; but all through the route everything wore the most peaceful aspect, and very few people were to be seen upon any of the roads. Of course, it was imagined that the alarm was a false one. This, however, was a mistake, for within an hour after the troops of dragoons had passed through the Bethania gate, which is almost immediately above the hill called the Pumble, on the road leading to Llanon, a sky rocket was sent up from one of the hills in the neighbourhood, and in a few minutes several large bonfires were lit on the various hills around, as answer to the signal given by the firing of the rocket. The consequence of these signals soon manifested themselves to the inhabitants of the surrounding country by the almost instantaneous appearance of about 1,000 men, colliers and others, who appeared to be in a well-organised condition. They commenced their operations by attacking and completely demolishing the Bethania gate, compelling the toll collector to seek safety by flight; they then walked in procession by Cwmawr, through the village of Drefach, and, in fact, through the entire neighbourhood, being accompanied in their procession by a species of 'rough music,' consisting of a number of horns and drums, and continually firing shots as tokens of triumph. They then proceeded to demolish two toll bars on the road from Carmarthen to Llanelli, which exploit they accomplished in a very short time. The scene throughout the whole affair was remarkably striking; the bonfires burning on the hills, the firing of the rockets, the explosions from the guns the mob carried, the beating of drums and the blowing of horns, the surrounding country in the meantime being beautifully illuminated by the light of the young moon, were striking and lovely in the extreme. The Rebeccaites continued their procession and depredations to the terror of the inhabitants until near midnight; they then disappeared with the same astonishing alacrity that they first of all displayed in appearing. Numbers of them, being colliers, precipitated themselves recklessly down the different shafts of the collieries, which are so plentiful in the neighbourhood; others took refuge in the cottages on the road side; and, in fact, all of them were out of sight in a very short time after the order for separation and dispersion was given by their leader. On this occasion the men were not disguised in women's clothes, as has been usually the case in the previous attacks by 'Rebecca and her children,' but were merely blackened in their faces, and some of them had their coats turned inside out."

Threatening notices have been sent to many of the landowners of the neighbourhood. The reporter then observes—

"The scene of these depredations, it will now be seen, has been quite changed; the disturbances having originated in the rural districts on the borders of Pembroke-shire and Carmarthenshire, but now having entirely removed from that quarter, and the state of affairs being clearly more and more desperate in the southern part of Carmarthenshire, in the mining and manufacturing districts.

"At Llanelli, in the copper works, where the men have for some time past been working only two days in the week, the master manufacturers (finding it utterly impossible to get rid of the copper manufactured there) have determined to reduce the wages of their workmen; and, having given notice of their intention so to do, they are visited with threats, both loud and deep, of a general strike in case of their carrying their determination into effect."

On the Llandillo Rhymnys trust there is scarcely a gate, toll house, or bar, now standing. The country is still constantly traversed by troops, but the work of destruction still goes on, and wherever the military appear, the Rebeccaites, by means of their spies, are sure of obtaining information. It appears, however, that a party of them have at length been betrayed and taken. One of the Rebeccaites, tempted by the reward of 100*l.*, turned informer at twelve o'clock on Saturday night. The consequence was a collision with the military and the capture of eight prisoners, with the expectation of more being arrested. The following is the account of the conflict:—

"Early on Sunday morning Captain Napier, with the inspector of the Swansea police, and two of the county police, went in the neighbourhood of Llangafelach to execute a warrant for the apprehension of some Rebeccaites, who were concerned in destroying the Bolgoed gate, upon private information. After a dreadful struggle, they succeeded in capturing four young men, sons of respectable freeholders and farmers. Captain Napier was severely wounded, and would have been killed but for the timely assistance rendered by Sergeant Jenkins, of the county police. The Captain was on the ground, struggling with his prisoner, when another man was in the act of chopping him with a hatchet, his arm uplifted, and ready to deliver a blow, which, it is said, must have annihilated the gallant Captain, had it not been arrested by the good use Jenkins made of his cutlass.

"Notwithstanding this small band were attacked by sixteen Rebeccaites, they secured their prisoners, who are now safely lodged in confinement. When on the ground, Capt. Napier drew his pistol, which was wrested from him; but he managed to again wrest it from the prisoner, drew another pistol from his pocket, and shot the fellow near the groin. The mayor, Dr Bird, succeeded in extracting the ball near the small of the back, in the station house, Swansea. It is thought it will not prove fatal. Captain Napier was having his head dressed at the time I first learnt these particulars, about twelve o'clock."

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.—The number of applications, at this period of the year, to the relieving officer from the labouring classes in the small parish of Odell, for admission into the union workhouse, is beyond all precedent, and almost exceeds belief. Orders were given by him to upwards of 30 persons, 23 of whom came together in a body on Thursday week, and presented themselves at the workhouse for admission, and were accordingly received into the house. The party consisted of two married men, three women, two able-bodied young men, and the rest boys and girls, and were of a very decent and creditable appearance. In Odell there were at the census of 1841, 85 inhabited houses, and 488 inhabitants. The acres of land in the parish we are not acquainted with.—*Bedford Mercury*.

THE CUTLERY TRADE.—Respecting the cutlery trade we have some particulars from Sheffield. The leading staple manufacturers of this town are at present almost wholly excluded from France by the operation of the commercial laws of that kingdom. Cutlery, indeed, is, we believe, absolutely prohibited, while our files, edge tools, &c., as well as English-made steel, are met by our French neighbours with an import duty so excessive as to amount almost to a practical exclusion of them. For some time past negotiations have been going forward among parties concerned, with reference to some modification of the existing state of things; and about a fortnight ago the consul of France at Newcastle visited Sheffield, and had interviews with respectable tradesmen and others, to ascertain their views with reference to a commercial treaty with his government. The same gentleman has visited other manufacturing towns with a similar object.

STRIKE AT THE LOW MOOR IRON WORKS.—At these important and extensive works, a general strike has taken place. The ground of grievance is the reduction of twopence in the shilling, or one-sixth of the whole, which the workmen have determined to resist, by leaving their employment. Acting on this determination, the works are now almost at a stand.

GAME LAWS.—Lord Hardwicke has lately instituted a fresh preserve for hares, the care of which has been confided to his under-steward, Mr Cambridge, who, on the 26th ultimo, visited the preserve on horseback. A leveret, alarmed at so strange a visitant, passed the fence of the preserve, followed by Cambridge, for the purpose, we suppose, of turning back the runaway. At this moment a lad named Hewitt, whose father has been employed in his lordship's gardens for a series of years, made his appearance, attempted to stop the fugitive, and in so doing killed it. Cambridge communicated the affair to his lordship, who summoned the father of the boy, and the boy himself, desiring them to follow him to the front of Cambridge's house. On his arrival there, his lordship expressed his displeasure in no very measured terms, saying he should be served as they served them on board ship, and required his father to flog him. The poor man consented, and the boy was conveyed to the harness house, a lad held up the shirt of the sufferer, and all the male population within call assembled to witness the scene, which was viewed by his lordship from horseback. After having been beaten with a hollow wand until his posteriors were swelled, the boy was conveyed to the residence of his grandmother, where he lay for a long time in a deplorable state. The lad had lately suffered under an attack of typhus fever. After careful inquiry, we mention this case with much pain, and only from a sense of duty.—*Cambridge Independent Press*.

LAUNCH OF THE GREAT BRITAIN.—The launch of this splendid vessel, belonging to the Great Western Steam-ship company, took place on Thursday, at Bristol. It having been publicly announced that Prince Albert would be present, the event thus acquired an additional interest, and at an early hour all Bristol was astir. The streets were thronged with people, dressed in their holiday attire, and numbers flocked in from the country around. Triumphant arches of evergreens and flowers spanned the streets, while the towers of the churches each sent forth its merry peal. Shortly after ten the special train, carrying Prince Albert, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Liverpool, Lord Wharncliffe, &c., arrived at the terminus. Prince Albert had previously stopped and received an address from the corporation of Bath. On his arrival at Bristol, he was met by the mayor and corporation. Addresses were presented by the corporation, the clergy, and the society of Merchant Venturers, the latter of which presented him with the freedom of their body in a gold box. The Prince, then attended by the Mayor, proceeded through the principal streets of Bristol and Clifton, to the vessel, the people everywhere vying with each other in their demonstrations of loyalty. Upon arriving at the steam-ship, the Prince was shown over her. Boats, barges, and every spot which commanded a view of the proceeding, was crowded with people and waved over by all manner of gay flags. After going over the vessel and the works, the Prince and the company sat down to the *dejeuner* prepared in a pavilion erected for the purpose; after which the company adjourned to the open air to witness the launch. As

the steamer floated slowly and majestically from the dock in which she was built, amid the acclamations of the vast multitudes, Prince Albert broke a bottle of wine upon her bows, and christened her the "Great Britain," with the usual ceremonies. This over, the company rapidly dispersed. Prince Albert returned to town by a special train, at four o'clock. The ship is the finest model of naval architecture in the world. She is built of iron; and her tonnage is greater than that of any vessel ever yet built. She is divided into compartments, each of which is water-tight, so that were she to be cut in halves each half would float; or were her stem or her stern to be destroyed, still she would live; so that she is in fact not only the largest but the safest vessel ever built. She has a flush deck, and her length from the figure-head to the taffrail is 322 feet, her main breadth 50 feet 6 inches. A better idea of the vastness of this mammoth ship may be conveyed by stating the fact that an army of 4,000 men could, with ease, be drawn up on her deck, and go through all their evolutions. She has no paddle-wheels, being fitted up with Mr Smith's Archimedian screw-propeller, which works under her stern. This propeller is sixteen feet in diameter, and is put in motion by engines of 1,000 horse-power.

FATHER MATHEW IN MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL.—The Rev. T. Mathew, who has, by his able advocacy of the principles of total abstinence, effected such a reformation in the moral habits of the people of the sister kingdom, arrived in Liverpool on Saturday the 15th inst. In the evening he attended the concluding meeting of the teetotal festival at the Liverpool theatre, which was (with the exception of a portion of the boxes) densely crowded in every part, it having been confidently rumoured during the day that he would be present. Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., presided, and Father Mathew spoke for about forty minutes. On Sunday he officiated at St Patrick's catholic chapel, and afterwards administered the pledge to about 6,000 persons. On Monday and Tuesday he was similarly engaged. On the latter day he was occupied till ten o'clock at night, and was much exhausted. The number of persons who received the pledge in that town, is variously estimated at from 30,000 to 40,000. The latter number is probably nearest the mark. Father Mathew himself, after the conclusion of his labours on Tuesday night, stated that, since Sunday, he had administered the pledge to 30,000. On Wednesday he was in Manchester, where there was a large procession in honour of the visit of the apostle of temperance to this country. 17,000 received the pledge up to Friday night.

THE ASSIZES.

THE POISONING CASE AT CARDIFF.—At Cardiff, on the 14th inst., Edward and Mary Thomas, husband and wife, charged with the murder of Mr William Howell and Jane Harvey, were placed on their trial. Our readers know the facts. Mr Howell, a farmer, was about to marry, contrary to the wishes of his sister (the female prisoner); and he and his servant were poisoned by arsenic, introduced into their beer. The case against the prisoners was strong; yet, to the astonishment of the court, the jury returned a verdict of acquittal.

THE WRESTLINGWORTH MURDER.—On the 22nd Sarah Dazley was indicted at Bedford for feloniously administering a quantity of arsenic to William Dazley, her husband, on the 29th of October last, whereof he died on the following day, by which means she wilfully murdered him. The facts of the case have recently appeared in this paper. The prisoner had given her husband pills containing some poisonous substance, which brought on violent vomiting and illness. The poor man, however, showed some signs of recovery, and she subsequently gave him some arsenic mixed with water, and told him that the doctor had sent it. He drank the whole off, and after enduring great agonies, died on the following morning. After a lengthened examination of witnesses, the jury found the prisoner "Guilty," and Mr Baron Alderson then sentenced her to be hanged, and directed that her body should be buried within the walls of the prison. The prisoner appeared almost unconcerned during this awful and impressive scene, and certainly left the court without carrying with her the sympathy of the audience.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.—At the Lincoln assizes, on Wednesday, the court was occupied the whole day in the trial of a case of breach of promise of marriage, brought by a Mr Stanton, son of a cloth manufacturer in Dorsetshire, against the Rev. Alexander Paton and his wife, Mrs P. having, prior to her marriage, consented to become the wife of the plaintiff; the latter, however, was "put out of court" by one of his own communications to the lady, to the effect that, as the proposed match was not agreeable to her friends, he agreed to dissolve the contract.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF UPWARDS OF FIFTY LIVES.—Another appalling steam-boat disaster has just taken place, by which no fewer than fifty to sixty human beings have been suddenly deprived of life. The Pegasus, which has plied between Leith and Hull for several years, left Leith harbour on Wednesday afternoon, having on board, besides the crew, at least sixteen cabin and about twenty steerage passengers; but the probability is that the number was greater, for several individuals are known to have gone with her whose names do not appear on the list at the Company's office. The vessel sped on her way till midnight, just when the watch was changed, the captain being on the bridge, taking a look about him before he turned in, when she struck on a sunken rock inside the Fern Islands, near what is called the Golden rock. The engines were then backed, and she came off. Her head was

turned towards the shore, but she did not proceed many hundred yards when the water rushing in extinguished the fires, and almost immediately the vessel sunk. In their desperate effort to save their lives, the passengers rushed to the boats, and, having hurriedly lowered them, they were swamped, and all on board, including the captain, perished, with the exception of five individuals. The Martello steamer, belonging to the same company, on her voyage from Hull, descried the wreck, about five o'clock on Thursday morning. The first object which attracted the attention of Captain Blackwood was a boat with a man in it, drifting with the tide; and soon after a body floated past. This made him aware that some accident had occurred in the vicinity. On coming up to the boat, which was almost full of water, the mate of the Pegasus was found in it, nearly insensible from cold and exhaustion. A person of the name of Baillie, a passenger returning to Hull, was taken from a sort of hatch, on which he was afloat; a young man of the name of Hillyard, another passenger from the neighbourhood of Hull, and one of the crew were discovered holding on by the mast, the vessel having sunk in about six fathoms water. Six persons in all were saved—namely, two passengers (Hillyard and Baillie), the mate, and three of the crew, which we believe amounted in all to fifteen. Captain Blackwood remained in the vicinity of the scene of disaster for several hours, and picked up six dead bodies, which were brought to Leith in the Martello. Three of these were females; one appeared a middle-aged married woman, apparently pregnant; she was attired in a dark checked gingham dress, a Leghorn bonnet, and black hard-spun woollen mantle. Another was a Miss Barton, who had in her arms when found a child a few years old. The third seemed considerably advanced in life, and was nearly undressed. The other bodies were those of the second engineer or fireman, a very stout man, whose forehead bore the mark of a violent contusion; a lad, apparently about twelve or fourteen years of age, dressed in a black vest and trousers, and a rough brown Petersham surcoat; and the third body was the child found in the arms of Miss Barton. These bodies, on arrival at Leith, were placed in shells, and conveyed to South Leith church till claimed by their relatives. The names of the following we have learned, although of steerage passengers we have reason to believe no account is kept:—Mrs Edington, Miss Hopeton, Miss Barton and a boy, Miss Floor, Miss Briggs, Mr and Mrs M'Leod, Mr Torrie, from Hull, a gentleman who was in ill health, and on whom Baillie, who is saved, was in attendance; Mr Elton, late of the Adelphi theatre here; Mr Hodgson, Mr Elliot and son, understood to be from the neighbourhood of Dundee; Mr Moxham, Mr Milne, Rev. Mr M'Kenzie, believed to be from Glasgow; Mr James Hunter, son of Mr Hunter, Dundas street, Edinburgh; Mr D. Whimster, in the employ of Messrs Ireland and Son, South Bridge; Mr Martin (and son), of London, but a native of Edinburgh; Mrs Alexander, of Paisley; and Mrs Barnetson, of Edinburgh. Captain Miller, who is among the victims, had great experience in the navigation of the coast, having sailed many years as commander of one of the Leith and London smacks. He was considered an excellent seaman. From all that can be learned, there must have been about sixty persons on board—including the crew—and only six of this number have been saved. The vessel now lies in the Fairway, between the Fern Islands and the English coast, about six feet of her mast appearing above water at half tide. It would seem the accident occurred nearly about the period of ebb. Mr Pringle, a gentleman in the employment of the company, was despatched from Edinburgh to take charge of the bodies that may be recovered. The disastrous occurrence took place at one o'clock on Thursday morning, in the neighbourhood of the spot where the Forfarshire steamer was wrecked five years ago, and where the late Grace Darling immortalised herself by the heroic devotion with which she periled her own life in the successful attempt to save the lives of five of the passengers who were clinging to the rocks. The *Scotsman*, among other particulars, says—

"We also had an interview with the mate yesterday, but he does not add much to what has been already stated. He informed us that, previous to getting into the boat in which he was discovered by the Martello, he floated about for three hours on a board. When he fell in with the boat it was nearly full of water, and it was with the utmost difficulty he could get into it without upsetting it. Steadying himself, however, upon the board he had got, he planted one foot into the middle of the boat, and thus preserved its balance till he got both legs in. He then placed the board across the boat, and made himself a seat. He describes the scene, at the period of the vessel going down, as being a heart-rending one. A great many of the passengers, he says, floated about on the surface of the water for a considerable time, calling upon their Maker to help them in their distress, but they all disappeared, one by one, except himself and the other five who were picked up by the Martello."

The *Glasgow Saturday Post* says—

"It is with extreme regret we learn that the Rev. Mr Mackenzie referred to, is the Rev. Mr Morell Mackenzie, formerly pastor of the independent church in Nile street, and latterly tutor of the theological seminary in this city, connected with the congregational body. The eminent talents and attainments of Mr Mackenzie were well known to many, and his death will be a severe loss, not only to the ecclesiastical connexion he belonged to, but the religious and literary society of our city."

MIRACULOUS PRESERVATION OF LIFE.—On Wednesday, the 12th inst., a picnic party from Haverfordwest, consisting of nearly twenty ladies and gentlemen, having visited the far-famed Presselly mountain for the purpose of spending the day, everything went on with the greatest hilarity. The officers in command of the detachment of sappers and miners, at present stationed on its summit, behaved in the

most gentlemanly and kind manner possible; every sort of amusement was resorted to; music, with its attendant charms, lent its fairy magic to the scene; and moving accidents, by flood or field, were little dreamt of. But the scene of pleasure was, alas! soon to be brought to a close. A thick mist having instantaneously arisen, Mr Charles Pugh, veterinary surgeon, of Haverfordwest, incautiously approached one part of the mountain, near its summit, he accidentally missed his footing, and overbalancing himself, fell over a barrier of projecting rock, and rolled, without the possibility of stopping himself, or of any assistance being rendered him, a distance of nearly half a mile, and ultimately fell into a slate quarry pit, at least fifty feet deep, in which there was luckily sufficient water to break his fall. Strange to say, he scarcely received any injury more than having his clothes torn to pieces, and a stiffness in the neck, from which, owing to the eminent medical skill at hand, there is no longer any danger to be apprehended. In his descent, it is supposed that he must have turned over upwards of 100 times.—*Welshman*.

DESTRUCTION OF BRICKS BY UNIONISTS.—Notwithstanding the distressing results which have followed the attempt of Messrs Pauling and Co.'s brickmakers to coerce their employers, we regret to say that continued attempts are made both on them and other employers by various means to force compliance with their wishes, and great numbers of bricks are frequently destroyed in the night time, as well as assaults committed on the hands who are willing to work. During Tuesday night not less than 23,000 bricks were trampled upon and destroyed in the croft of Mr W. Burgess, Ardwick; and in another croft, in Ashton new road, about 12,000 bricks were trodden down. Two men, named William Hurst and Thomas Brownbill, were brought up yesterday at the Borough court, but were discharged on insufficient evidence.—*Manchester Times*.

RECOVERY OF BANK NOTES.—A very long examination of a most extraordinary case occupied the Liverpool police magistrates during the last week, relative to three bank notes of £1,000 each, that were abstracted from the pocket of Mr Blakemore, M.P., while proceeding from his bankers to his residence in Regent street, in an omnibus. A clerk in the branch bank at Liverpool, named Taylor Jennings, and a man of infamous character, named John Anderson, are implicated in the affair; both prisoners are remanded for the production of further evidence.

IRELAND.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting of the Repeal association was held on Tuesday at the Exchange rooms. The place was densely crowded; Mr J. Hamilton in the chair. After a number of letters, containing remittances, were read, Mr O'Connell entered the room amidst great cheering; he noticed the recent remark of Lord Brougham regarding the repeal funds, and stated that every member could see the books, which he said were the best kept in the world; every shilling was expended through the finance committee. He had just bought in the 3½ per cents. six thousand pounds, and at the end of the week would purchase at least four thousand pounds more for the association. Among other current expenses, were the charges for newspapers; for every ten pounds they received they gave a weekly paper, and for every twenty a three-day paper; for the new building they had advanced £1,000, and would this week advance another. This intelligence he sent Lord Brougham with his compliments. He referred to the late debates in parliament, and complained of the bad report given of Mr Roche's speech by the English press, the most incorrect of which, he said, was the *Morning Chronicle*. He denied any one being in France as the agent of the association, though he had heard some one there had represented himself as such. He referred to the Duke of Wellington's speech, and said the repealers would soon be taking the second step in their agitation, as shortly, three hundred gentlemen, having the confidence of the people, would assemble in Dublin; and, if necessary, proclaim the non-consumption of all things English. He concluded by moving that arbitrators be appointed in every county in Ireland; this was the more necessary on account of the magistrates who were dismissed by the government. He also moved that a committee of the association be appointed, of which Sir Coleman O'Loghlen should be requested to act as chairman, to draw up a plan for organising the proper mode of carrying out the system to be adopted. The motion was passed. The week's rent was announced to be £1,464 19s. 7½d.

COUNTY OF WEXFORD REPEAL DEMONSTRATION.

This demonstration, preparations for which had long been making, came off on Thursday, and was nowise inferior in any respect to preceding meetings for the same purpose. Mr O'Connell arrived at Enniscorthy on Wednesday night, and remained at the residence of Dr Keatinge, the Roman catholic bishop of Ferns, for the night. As the band which had formed part of the escort thence were returning in full play, by the market house (says the correspondent of the *Times*), several of the soldiers (a company of the 11th from Wexford, about one-half of which is Irish), who were stationed in that building and crowded its windows, cheered. The band stopped and played "God save the Queen" and "Rory O'More." The soldiers then called for "Patrick's day," and the call having been responded to, they waved their caps and cheered again. This took place not only within hearing, but within sight, of the officers, who occupied apartments in an opposite house. Indeed there seems to be a very general idea among both military and police that they ought not, under any circumstances, to be called upon to interfere with those demonstrations; and of one re-

markable instance I can speak with certainty. It was that of a sergeant-major, who declared that he understood the bravery of the British soldiery too well not to believe that they would feel it a disgrace and a dishonour to slaughter a people, and in particular a portion of their fellow countrymen, with whom they had many feelings in common, after that people had been deprived of the means of defence by a legislative enactment such as the Irish Arms bill.

About twelve o'clock the trades of Enniscorthy, Wexford, Ross, &c., assembled opposite the bishop's house, and presented an address to the "Liberator," in which they attributed their depressed condition to the union. Along almost the entire route from the town to Tomduff the road was lined at either side with men, women, and children (the two latter predominating), who sat from four to eight or ten deep. The view from the platform was most animating and imposing. Every road within sight seemed to contain a procession, while across the surrounding fields as many hastened to the central point with more nimble foot. Mr O'Connell, Dr Keatinge, &c., and the procession of the trades arrived at Tomduff about three, and with considerable difficulty reached the platform. This was erected in a field of fourteen acres, more than one-half of which was occupied by a dense crowd, while the whole field might be said to have been full. As usual, the platform contained a large posse of priests, but likewise a goodly number of respectable laymen. Having inquired from the editor of a local paper if many of the priests had signed the requisition, his reply was, "That if I wished for a tolerably correct list, I had only to open the Roman catholic directory, and copy the names of all the priests of the diocese."

Mr MAHER, deputy-lieutenant and justice of the peace, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting at considerable length.

The usual resolutions were submitted to the meeting, and spoken to by Mr J. H. TALBOT, ex J.P.; Mr JEFFRIES, mayor of Wexford; Mr O. E. O'FERRALL, J.P.; Mr J. T. DEVEREUX; Mr W. B. COOKE, a protestant; and other gentlemen.

The Rev. Dr SINNOTT, President of St Peter's college, Wexford, said,

As a catholic clergyman, he joined them in protesting against everything like ascendancy. They had long struggled against one ascendancy, and they now vowed before high Heaven that they would never bear another [cheers]. They asked no tithes or state provision for their church, but they would resist to the last, and even to death, if necessary, every invasion against the rights and independence of that church [cheers]. They wanted not separation from England. They would ever support their glorious Queen, to whom they owed, for conscience' sake, perpetual allegiance; but they would never be content to be governed by Englishmen [cheers].

Mr O'CONNELL then presented himself. Speaking of the government's determination to do nothing, he related the following anecdote:—

There was a barber once who was a great fellow for picking up news, and had fools enough to listen to him; and he came into an assembly one day, and said, "I have great news for you, I have shaved a great man's valet to-day" [laughter]. "Oh, did you," replied another person, "and what did he say?" "Why," answered the barber, "he said nothing; but when a great man's valet says nothing there must be something in the wind" [laughter]. So the Duke of Wellington says nothing, and Peel says nothing—they all say nothing, they will do nothing, and therefore I suppose there is something in the wind [laughter]; and so there is, and I tell you what it is—the repeal [great cheering].

He again introduced the massacre of Wexford, in the time of Cromwell. The objects at which he aimed, and the disorganised condition of the British empire, were thus referred to:—

"Why, I should ask, should we pay for the support of a religion from which we derive no spiritual advantage? Then the ecclesiastical temporalities, which are very large, should be applied for public purposes. I will first apply the temporalities to the support of the poor, and thus do away with the poor rates [hear, hear]. But is that all you will derive from a repeal of the union? No. You will then have a parliament in College green [loud cheers]. Nine millions a year are now drained out of Ireland that are raised in Ireland; but if we had the repeal, those nine millions would be spent in Ireland [cheers]. If you had an Irish parliament every married man and householder would have a right to vote, and that he might not be oppressed by his landlord for giving that vote, he would have the ballot to protect him. There is another thing it would do for you. The grand jury cess at present is a great infliction upon the people; but give me repeal, and the national taxation shall pay it, and the farmers will be discharged at once from all grand jury cess. In every county in Ireland, and of course in this, the horrible clearance system prevails; but I want fixity of tenure, and that no tenure shall be less than for 21 years, and no rent recoverable except on a lease for 21 years at least [cheers]. I say, no lease, no rent; and I believe that will be good for the people [cheers]. What is the state of England at the present moment, taking England, Scotland, and Wales? England and Scotland are at daggers drawn about their religion. The English law is violating the treaty of union with Scotland, and imposing fetters on the Scotch national church, and England has no strength or security in any oppression of Ireland amongst the Scotch, who would, I think, be rather on our side. What is the state of Wales? They are in a state of nightly rebellion; the little Welshmen never rebel by day, but they go out at night. What is the state of England herself? Twenty thousand colliers have been thrown out of employment in Staffordshire; the employers cannot give wages enough to support human life, and those twenty thousand men have threatened to get pikes and march four deep to London to ask Wellington and Peel what they will do for them. They don't call them rebellious, but they call us rebellious, who do not use any pikes, but they, forsooth, are peaceable subjects [laughter].

The dinner took place in a spacious pavilion, which was erected for the purpose at the rear of the Roman catholic chapel. It measured 100 feet in length, was highly decorated with laurel wreaths and festoons of flowers, contained eight tables, accom-

modating upwards of 600 persons, and a gallery which was filled by about 200 ladies. Letters were read from various persons who were unable to attend, and the usual toasts given.

Mr O'CONNELL, in returning thanks, dwelt much upon the character of that day's demonstration.

My mind, said he, is filled with the majestic scene that appeared before me to-day. I see what a quantity there is of physical force, of moral power, and of intellect—all those elements that elevate nations from prostrate situations, and raise them to the station of independence and power [cheers]. Yes, we have all those elements, and shall we throw them away [cries of "No"]? Shall we shrink from them [renewed cries of "No, no," and vehement applause]? I am going round on my circuit; I have not performed half my task [a laugh]. On Sunday next I shall be with John of Tuam [loud cheers]—on that day week I shall be in Castlebar; and on the 15th of August I intend visiting the hill of Tehara, county of Meath [cheers]. The enemy has abandoned the field to us, and left us to our own discretion [a laugh]. No man asserts that our meetings are illegal. They talk, and scold, and abuse us, and say we are rebellious [hear]. But our rebellion consists in peaceable demonstrations—in the voice of an aggrieved people calling for that freedom which nature and nature's God had intended for them [cheers].

No less a sum than £1,500 would, it was expected, be announced at the next weekly meeting of the association from the "men of Wexford."

RIOTS IN BELFAST.—We observe, with deep regret, that there have been riots in Belfast, arising out of the misconduct of some of the anti-repeal artisans of Browne square. Nearly fifty persons have been committed to prison, including members of each party; but as far as we can glean from the report of the proceedings, not one of the repealers was found committing the slightest offence. We regret this occurrence, lest it should interrupt the growing partiality to repeal amongst the Orangemen of Ulster; and we recommend endurance and the courage of patience to our friends in Belfast.—*The Nation*.

ANTI-REPEAL MOVEMENT.—The grand jury of the county of Armagh have put forth a declaration of their firm determination to stand by the integrity of the empire, and expressing an anxious hope that her Majesty's government will make use of those powers which the laws and constitution afford them. Here follow the signatures of Colonel Verner, M.P., foreman, and the jurors. The document is also signed by Sir James Strange, the high sheriff, the Duke of Manchester, the sub-sheriff, &c.

THE KING OF HANOVER AND THE ORANGEMEN.—At the meeting of the Protestant Operative association and Reformation society, held at the Rotunda on Thursday evening, the Rev. Inesham Gregg announced that a communication had been received from the King of Hanover. Mr Gregg then moved that the meeting should receive the letter of the King of Hanover standing, which was agreed to. The letter expressed peculiar "gratification" at the loyal address from the association, and expressed "thanks for the mark of esteem and attachment" they had thus shown. The contents of this letter drew forth loud cheers and Kentish fire, which continued for some minutes. The Rev. Mr Gregg then addressed the meeting.

He fervently prayed that, if a flagrant act of national apostasy should establish popery in Ireland, it might be his own blessed privilege to have his warm heart's blood poured out upon the ground for the testimony that he should give [cheers]. Let them prepare their swords—let them give out wood for the construction of their scaffolds—let them dig deep their dens, and raise on high their bastilles. Let them forge their manacles and prepare their fetters; and might God put it into the hearts of his brethren to glory in imprisonment, and chains, and death itself, for their testimony, for happy would that man be who should die for it. Choirs of angels would wait his blessed spirit to the regions of felicity, and the brightest crown of the brightest glory should be his [loud cheers]. They had very nearly come to that. The battle of the Reformation must be fought over again [cheers]. The work that the Bible and Wickliffe did, and his brave followers the Lollards, the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel had rendered null and void [groans]. It was afterwards agreed that the letter should be framed.

THE HARVEST IN IRELAND.—We are happy to state that the appearance of the growing crops is most promising, and that the present advance is totally unconnected with any apprehension as to the approaching harvest. In the south of Ireland, it is expected that the reaping of wheat will commence in the first or second week of August.—*Dublin Evening Post*.

SCOTLAND.

PEER'S ELECTION.—The election of a representative peer, in room of the late General Lord Forbes, took place on Wednesday, in the palace of Holyrood. Lord Polwarth was unanimously elected.

THE CANDIDATE FOR AYRSHIRE.—Mr Alexander Oswald, nephew of Mr James Oswald, M.P. for Glasgow, but widely differing from his uncle in politics, has started for Ayrshire on the conservative interest. We know nothing of the young gentleman, except that he is a very high and very exclusive tory, a member of the most ultra-aristocratic and ultra-tory circle in town, and that he is supported by the influence and favour, if not the pecuniary resources, of the Carlton club.—*Glasgow Post*.

PROSECUTIONS FOR BLASPHEMY.—Messrs Robinson and Mr Thomas Finlay, of Edinburgh, have been indicted at the instance of the Lord Advocate of Scotland, to appear before the high court of Justiciary, on Monday, 24th inst., to answer to the charges of vending and publishing certain works deemed blasphemous! The philosophical and theological writings of Mirabeau, Voltaire, Volney, Shelley, Paine, Palmer, &c., are among the works seized.

An association has been formed here, under the name of the "Scottish Anti-persecution union," whose object shall be to afford pecuniary, and every other possible aid to any party or parties, whatever may be his or their opinions, who may be prosecuted, or persecuted, for the expression or publication of those opinions; and, in the present case, eminent counsel has been engaged by the "Union."—*Weekly Chronicle*.

A FEMALE MINER IN GORBALS.—At the Gorbals police court, on Wednesday, Ann Harkinson or Lloyd, a female in male attire, concerning whom, a somewhat romantic paragraph appeared in the columns of a contemporary about a fortnight ago, was brought up charged with being found lurking at a late hour, and under suspicious circumstances, in different parts of the barony. Her name she stated as Ann Harkinson or Lloyd. She is a native of Ireland, has been about six years in this country, and for the last three years has gone about in male attire. Fourteen months of that time she spent in a coal pit, working as a miner, and eleven months labouring at a railway. She is by no means good looking, her features being rather coarse and masculine; and but for her peculiar figure, and the want of certain peculiarities appertaining to the other sex, might very well pass for a stout Irish lad. Having completed her fourteen days' imprisonment in Hamilton prison for the theft of a pair of trousers, she had come down to Glasgow, and was found as described by Mr Brown, the criminal officer for the barony. After an admonition from the magistrate, during which the prisoner wept bitterly, she was ordered to be transmitted to her friends in Fermanagh.—*Glasgow Saturday Post*.

ALARMING OCCURRENCE.—On Monday morning, on the arrival at Greenock of the eight o'clock railway train from Glasgow, the rush was so great that although two gangways were put on board the railway steamer bound to Gourock, Dunoon, and Rothesay, to expedite the embarkation of the passengers for those places, such was the impetuosity of the people to get on board, that one of the gangways was pushed over into the sea, and from fifteen to twenty individuals were immersed. The scene was terrific in the extreme, and all on the quay and on board the steamer were instantly at work with boat hooks, patent ladders, and life buoys, to save the sufferers. One young child only is missing.—*Glasgow Chronicle*.

Miscellaneous.

CURIOUS QUESTION OF IDENTITY.—About three weeks ago, at Queen square, John Leach, a tailor in Aldgate, was charged with being a deserter from the thirtieth regiment of the line. His accuser was Sergeant-major Jones, of the recruiting staff, who, meeting him by chance, fancied he recognized in him a person who had twelve years since deserted. He inquired of him if he were not Benjamin Leach. The accused replied he was not, but on Jones insisting that he was, Mr Leach entreated that he would not expose him in the street, and consented to accompany him. On their way, however, Mr Leach ran off, but was pursued and given into custody. He said that he had two brothers, Benjamin and Richard, but he and they so much resembled each other, that it was difficult to recognise them apart. His brother Benjamin, he admitted, was a deserter from the 30th, and was now in America. His brother Richard had suffered much inconvenience by the error. Sergeant-major Jones insisted that the John Leach was the Benjamin Leach who had enlisted sixteen years ago, and who had deserted. There was a soldier now at Galway who had frequent opportunities of seeing the accused, and whom he had no doubt could confirm his identity. The prisoner was admitted to bail, and on Tuesday was again brought up. The soldier, who had been brought from Galway, was in attendance, and Mr Leach was placed amongst a crowd of persons who were waiting on ordinary business. The soldier was desired to point out the man. He cast a glance carefully round the room, and did not appear to have found the object of his search. He was about making a second scrutiny, and his eyes were fully directed towards the place where Mr Leach stood, when the latter exclaimed, "Don't look at me, sir, I am not the man." The soldier gave a more penetrating glance, and almost shouted, "You are Benjamin Leach." The solicitor for Mr Leach cross-examined both the sergeant-major and the soldier. They declared that no conversation had passed between them by which the soldier could be strengthened in his memory. Mr Bond directed that the accused should be committed to Bridewell until he should be tried by a court martial.

DISTURBANCE IN A PLACE OF WORSHIP.—Thompson Dawson, an elderly man of respectable appearance, was charged with causing a disturbance in a place of worship, and assaulting the officiating minister. Mr W. Reeves of Lambeth chapel stated that, while engaged in giving out a hymn in the above chapel, the defendant rose from his seat, and, in a loud tone, ejaculated that he had come there to deliver a message, and that he should do it in the presence of the congregation. Such an interruption created a good deal of astonishment; and, as the defendant still continued to vociferate aloud, the complainant addressed him, requesting that he would conduct himself properly or else leave the place. The defendant, however, paid no regard to this admonition, and, advancing towards complainant, snatched the hymn book out of his hand and grasped him by the collar, and would probably have used some violence if he (complainant) had not hastily withdrawn, and procured a policeman. There was a complete interruption given to the service until the defendant was

removed out of the place. Here three respectable looking young women pressed forward, and said that they were the nieces of the defendant, and declared that he was a persecuted man. They then began to distribute printed circulars to the auditory, desiring them to read, and they would then be convinced that their uncle was the victim of a set of hypocrites. One of the young ladies became so much excited that the interference of a policeman was found necessary to check the irritability of temper she displayed. The defendant commenced justifying himself in a rambling and incoherent manner, quoting scripture for that purpose, when he was stopped by Mr Cottingham, who said that he must enter into his own recognisance in £100, and find two securities of £50 to keep the peace for twelve months. The defendant said that he would perish a martyr in gaol before he would find the requisite bail. Mr Cottingham said that the defendant's brother, who was at Leeds, ought to be made acquainted with his situation, for it was evident his mind was affected, and that he ought to be put under constraint. The required bail not being offered, the defendant was sent off in the van to the county gaol.

ANOTHER HOSTILE TARIFF.—Within the past week intelligence has been received of a design on the part of the Belgian government to increase very considerably the duty upon English worsted goods imported into that country. Upon receipt of this intelligence, a meeting of parties interested in this branch of our foreign trade was hastily convened; which deputed J. G. Horsfall, Esq., and Martin Schlesinger, Esq., to wait upon Mr Gladstone and Sir R. Peel, to request the interference of government to prevent the threatened increase of duty. These gentlemen started on their mission on Saturday. After their departure fresh intelligence arrived from Brussels, confirming the former account, and stating that the ordinance increasing the duty would be issued on the 17th, and the new scale come into operation on the 27th inst. The deputation found that government had received similar information, and were informed that nothing could be done to avert the mischief. Our ambassador at Brussels had applied for a postponement of the time when the duty was to come into force, but received an unfavourable answer.—*Bradford Observer*.

FEARFUL DECLINE OF TRADE.—An official return of great importance has been published, on the motion of Mr Thorneley. This document indicates a fearful decline in our foreign trade, and clearly enough accounts for a large proportion of the distress which has prevailed among our people. The total exports of British produce to the United States of America, in the last five years, were as follows:—

| | |
|------------|------------|
| 1838 | £7,685,760 |
| 1839 | 8,839,204 |
| 1840 | 5,283,020 |
| 1841 | 7,098,642 |
| 1842 | 3,528,807 |

This table shows the alarming fact that our exports have fallen off in a year, not merely one-half, as compared with the year preceding, but one-half, as compared with the average of the four preceding years. Going into the details, we find the following to be the state of our exports of woolen manufactures, including yarn, to the above country:—

| | |
|------------|------------|
| 1838 | £1,887,177 |
| 1839 | 2,178,655 |
| 1840 | 1,077,828 |
| 1841 | 1,549,926 |
| 1842 | 892,335 |

In hardware and cutlery, wrought and unwrought iron and steel, and linen and silk manufactures, there has been a great falling off. We shall only, however, quote here the details of the cotton manufactures, including yarn, exported during the same period:—

| | |
|------------|------------|
| 1838 | £1,476,267 |
| 1839 | 1,467,082 |
| 1840 | 1,123,439 |
| 1841 | 1,515,933 |
| 1842 | 487,276 |

Such are the consequences of class rule.

ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF WHEAT.—It will be seen from our Wakefield corn letter, that at the market held yesterday wheat advanced no less than 4s. a quarter on the price of the week preceding. On the two weeks just previous to this, there was an advance altogether of 5s. a quarter, so that the price at this great corn depot has risen no less than 9s. in three weeks. This fact shows that the factors believe the entire stock of wheat in the country to be very small.—*Leeds Mercury*.

POLICY OF THE WHIGS.—Yesterday (Tuesday se'nnight), a large meeting of the liberal members of the House of Commons was held at the Reform club, convened by a circular of Lord John Russell, being the first meeting so called by the leader of the opposition in the present session. As many incorrect reports have been circulated as to the origin and result of this assembly, I will shortly state the facts. The Irish liberal members sent a requisition to Lord John Russell, requesting him to summon a general meeting of the liberal members of parliament of England, Scotland, and Ireland, to consider some appeal to the constituencies on the present critical position of Ireland. The substance of their views was embodied in the following extracts of the address:—

"The undersigned Irish representatives being deeply impressed with a sense of the dangers which may arise, not only to Ireland, but to the empire at large, if the present session should be allowed to close without some manifestation of a disposition to conduct the government of Ireland in a manner acceptable to its inhabitants, feel it their duty to exhaust every effort to avert the consequences incidental to perseverance in the course of policy now enforced against their country."

"They have applied to parliament for redress of those grievances which have excited the discontent and called forth the complaints of the Irish people. Such redress has been denied by a large majority of the House of Commons. Their sole remaining hope now rests in the belief that the sovereign and the people of Great Britain will not ratify that decision. They, therefore,

desire to appeal to public opinion, and they still cling to the hope that there is amongst all classes in this country, without distinction of party, sufficient foresight, as well as kindly feeling towards Ireland, to induce them to prefer the adoption of just and conciliatory measures to the consequences—uncertain in their nature, but in any event lamentable—which may arise from a collision of the sister kingdoms in a struggle for the national rights of Ireland."

About a hundred members attended—Lord John Russell in the chair. His lordship stated the object of the meeting, without indicating any particular course on his own part. Much general discussion ensued, during which Mr Byng, Mr Bernal, Mr C. Wood, Mr Wyse, Lord Palmerston, and others, questioned the policy of the particular plans for an action on public opinion. The ultimate decision seemed to be against any public manifesto of Irish grievances being singly or prematurely put forward by the meeting as a body; but it was understood that the Irish members themselves would prepare such a document for future consideration. It appeared, however, to be the prevalent impression that ministers should be, for the time, left to their own course, and to fill up the cup of their own bitterness on Irish and general policy.—*London Correspondent of the Scotsman*.

SOMETHING LIKE MENACING AN M.P.—The *Morning Herald* has the following mysterious threat prominent amongst its advertisements:—"To Mr P. B., M.P.—Beware, if you do not fulfil your promise so lately made to me by to-morrow (Thursday), the 20th, by one o'clock p.m., I will fulfil mine the following day.—W." Can this mean Mr Peter Borthwick, M.P. for Evesham—and, if so, does he intend "coming to the scratch?"

TOBACCO IMPORTS.—The quantity of tobacco imported from the United States during the past year, as given in returns just presented to the House of Commons, amounted to 38,618,012lbs., being a decrease of several thousand pounds as compared with the preceding year.

MR WASHINGTON IRVING.—The lovers of literature and admirers of one of its greatest living ornaments will be gratified to learn, that Washington Irving has succeeded to a large fortune, which has been bequeathed to him by one of the society of Friends, to whom the distinguished American author was personally unknown. Mr Irving, in consequence, intends immediately to relinquish his appointment as American minister at Madrid; where, we hear, his health has suffered materially since his recent residence in that capital.—*Morning Chronicle*.

CARLTON CLUB.—An entertainment was given at the above club to the King of Hanover on Saturday evening last. The Duke of Cleveland, Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Shaftesbury, Earl of Charleville, Earl of Eldon, Viscount Strangford, Lord Lyndhurst, Sir John Beckett, Sir Charles Wetherell, &c., were among the noblemen and gentlemen assembled to dine with his Majesty.

DUELING.—A correspondent of the *Spectator*, signing himself "A Hater of Bullies," makes the following suggestion as to the best mode of putting an end to dueling:—"Let seconds be appointed as now; let them choose an umpire; let the seconds, if they can agree—or, if not, the umpire—dictate the apologies or explanations proper to be made by the offending party, or by both parties, if both are in fault. Should a party refuse to obey the award so made, let his refusal be published in the newspapers, and himself be cut in decent society. And whether he gives or refuses the apology required of him, let the honour of the other party be considered as satisfied by the proceeding."

TRADE TO HONG KONG.—As a proof of the importance of our trade with China, and the extensive nature of our exports to that quarter, we would notice the fact, that last week three fine ships, viz., John O'Gaunt, Emperor, and the John Dalton, all fully laden with British manufactured goods, sailed from Liverpool for Hong Kong. The aggregate value of these cargoes must amount to £700,000. The sailing of the two first-named ships has caused considerable interest amongst merchants and shipowners.

RAILROADS ABROAD AND AT HOME.—The *National States* that the United States of America have already 8,000 kilometres of railroads. England possesses near 4,000 kilometres; Belgium, 440; Germany and Prussia together, about 5,000. Russia is extending five great lines, of an extent of 6,736 kilometres. France has but 862 kilometres, of which only 121 are in activity.

INEQUALITIES OF THE REPRESENTATION OF ENGLAND.—In England and Wales there is one member for every 30,000 of the population. In manufacturing Lancashire there is one member for every 51,000 of the population. In agricultural Rutland there is one member for every 9,000; in agricultural Dorsetshire there is one for every 13,000; and in agricultural Buckingham there is one for every 11,000 of the population. The county of Buckingham, with 146,529 inhabitants, sends three members! Four English counties, with 690,000 inhabitants, and 54 members. All Scotland, with four times the number of inhabitants, sends only 53!

A DREAM STORY.—Extract of a letter from Smyrna, June 29th:—"A Mr d'A., occupying the post of French consular agent in one of the islands of the Archipelago, dreamed that his son, a lad of seventeen or eighteen, living at Smyrna, was threatened by some imminent danger. For two days the impression remained unabated; and, although determined on writing to Smyrna to recall his son home, the father was prevented from executing his design by the circumstance of there being no departure for some days after the dream. An opportunity at length presented itself, and a gentleman, bound to Smyrna, was charged by the anxious father with a letter, conveying the statement of his fears to the boy's relations, and ordering them to send his son home

immediately. The gentleman arrived; and, after occupying himself in some matters of business, proceeded, late in the day, to execute the commission entrusted to him. He went to the house, and as he entered, judge of his horror and surprise, when he discovered a crowd of people bearing home the lifeless body of his friend's son. He had just been drowned whilst bathing.

CARTOONS.—As some of our readers may not know the exact meaning of this word, we may state that it is derived from two Italian words—*carta* (paper), and *oni* (large), and that cartoons are designs in chalk or colours on large paper, which is almost invariably rough in its texture, and which is often placed on canvass. The cartoons by Raphael, of which seven are preserved at Hampton court, are the most famous of this species of painting.

COBBETT ON DUELLING.—Cobbett, when challenged to fight, recommended the challenger to draw a Cobbett in chalk upon a door, and if he succeeded in hitting it, to send him instant word, in order that he might have an opportunity of acknowledging that, had the true Cobbett been there, he, in all probability, would have been hit too. But hit or no hit, the bullets could have no effect whatever, he maintained, on the original cause of quarrel.

THE ARISTOCRACY AND THEIR SERVANTS.—The *Court Gazette* says—"The stewards and housekeepers of the nobility often make large fortunes at the expense of their masters. We have known 20, and even 50 per cent. offered to them by tradesmen, as a remuneration for getting the custom of their employers. How can this be made up except by plunder? We know of entertainments given below stairs in some of the squares, more costly (if not more select) than those given in the drawing-room. The lady of a prime minister (whom we shall not name) told us that the whole of the aristocracy were the slaves of their servants. 'I cannot offer you any refreshment,' said she; 'but I dare say there are hot pheasants and champagne in the steward's room.'"

THE ARISTOCRACY AND THEIR MONOPOLIES.—Alas! alas! the working aristocracy, admonished by trades-unions, chartist conflagrations—above all, by their own shrewd sense, kept in perpetual communion with the fact of things—will assuredly reform themselves, and a working world will still be possible. But the fate of the idle aristocracy, as one reads its horoscope hitherto in corn laws and such like, is an abyss that fills one with despair. Yes, my rosy, fox-hunting brothers, a terrible hippocratic look reveals itself (God knows not to my joy) through those fresh buxom countenances of yours. Through your corn-law majorities, sliding scales, protecting duties, bribery elections, and triumphant Kentish fire, a thinking eye discerns ghastly images of ruin, too ghastly for words—a hand-writing as of "Mene, mene!" Men and brothers, on your sliding scale you seem sliding, and to have slid—you little know whither! Good God! did not a French do-nothing aristocracy, hardly above half-a-century ago, declare in like manner, "We cannot exist, and continue to dress and parade ourselves, on the just rent of the soil of France, but we must have further payment than rent of the soil; we must be exempted from taxes too"—we must have a corn law to extend our rent? This was in 1789:—in four years more—Did you look into the tanneries of Meudon, and the Long-naked making for themselves breeches of human skins? May the merciful heavens avert the omen: may we be wiser, that so we be less wretched!—*Carlyle's Past and Present*.

La Patrie announces that M. Thiers is about to leave Paris for England, where he proposes to pass some time in order to procure information relative to the maritime wars of the empire.

At a tea-drinking match at East Challow, Berks, a few days since, between some six or eight females, for a prize, the victor drank 29, and four others 25 full-sized cups full in half an hour.

In the intended new dock at Liverpool, called the Dock, the estimated quantity of cast-iron is no less than 7,000 tons.

The decision of Sir W. Follett, Sir Frederick Pollock, and Mr Waddington, that unstamped proxies are illegal, should be generally known, as involving an extensive principle, affecting alike all public companies where voting by proxy is admitted.

According to a Vienna letter, the reductions in the Austrian army will produce an annual saving of 10,000,000 or even 12,000,000 florins, instead of 5,000,000 only, as hitherto stated.

Religious Intelligence

HEATON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, the 9th inst, two admirable and impressive sermons were preached on behalf of the Sunday school, at the independent chapel, at the village of Heaton Mersey, Lancashire, by the Rev. John Sutcliffe, of Ashton-under-Lyne. The congregations were numerous and respectable, and we understand the collections amounted to upwards of £25, a sum which reflects great credit on the worthy individuals who support this rising interest, and which argues well for its future success, spite of all the efforts made to oppose it.

GENERAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The seventy-fourth annual Association of the General Baptist churches of the New connexion, was held at Loughborough on Tuesday, June 28, and the three following days. The Rev. E. Stevenson, the minister of the church, presided at the first meeting. After dinner, which was provided at one of the principal inns, the members of the association, composed of the ministers and representatives of the churches, assembled, the Rev. W. Wallis, of London, was elected chairman; Rev. J. Burns, of Paddington, London, and

the Rev. W. Butler, of Heptenstall, near Halifax, were chosen moderators; and the Rev. T. Stevenson, of Leicester, secretary. The reading of the numerous letters occupied the remaining sittings of the day. They were generally of an interesting and encouraging character. On Wednesday morning a very numerous congregation assembled for public worship; the Rev. J. Wallis, of Commercial-road, London, preached from Jude ver. 3. In the afternoon the annual missionary meeting was held, at which, as is usual, the report of the Society was read by its respected secretary, the Rev. J. G. Pike, of Derby. The meeting was very numerously attended. The chair was taken by J. Hodgson, Esq., from Yorkshire; and the resolutions were moved and seconded by the Rev. Messrs Goadby, Bulter, Underwood, Burns, Peggs, and Yates. On Thursday very great interest was felt upon the academy question, relative to its location and tutor. The former tutor having resigned, it was finally decided that the Institution should be located at Leicester. The Rev. W. Wallis was elected tutor, the duties of which office he is to resume without delay. The proceedings closed on Friday.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, KINGSTANLEY.—The Baptist chapel and school-room in this place, having recently undergone considerable alterations, and been greatly improved, were re-opened for Divine service on Wednesday, July 5th. The expenses incurred were upwards of £160. On the day of re-opening, nearly £30 were collected, including the proceeds of a tea-party; on the Sabbath, nearly £20; and, by the contributions of a few friends in the neighbourhood, the whole amount has been raised: thus affording another proof (if proof were required) of the efficiency of the voluntary principle.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—The Rev. J. Chapman Davis, late of Newfoundland-street chapel, Bristol, has accepted a unanimous and cordial invitation from the independent church and congregation in Wells, where he commenced his labours on the 2nd inst.

DEATH OF TWO MISSIONARIES.—We have to announce this week, with much regret, the diminution of the missionary force by the death of that eminent and zealous servant of God, the Rev. Mr Zorn, by an internal hæmorrhage, which baffled medical skill, and speedily removed him from his toils to his eternal reward. The same letter also gives the mournful intelligence of the death of the Rev. Mr Oates. Both these gentlemen were indefatigable agents of the Moravian mission.—*Baptist Herald.*

CREDITON.—On Friday, the Rev. Mr Porter, independent minister, who leaves Crediton in a few days for Sheffield, New Brunswick, was entertained at a social tea party by his congregation and friends generally. He was presented with an elegant copy of Bagster's bible, by Mr A. Perkins, in the name of the subscribers. The rev. gentleman acknowledged the offering in feeling and appropriate terms.

WESTERN ACADEMY.—The anniversary of the above institution was held at the Academy house, Exeter, on the 27th and 28th ult., on which occasion a respectable body of the friends of an educated ministry attended. The students were examined in copious selections from the studies of the session. The examination afforded ample proof of the effective manner in which the respected tutors had attended to their important duties; and, as it respects the students, while varying degrees of talent and acquirement were evinced, the impression was, that commendable and successful diligence had been exhibited in pursuit of their various studies. At the general meeting, the friends and subscribers derived great pleasure from the fact, that in consequence of the active exertions of friends who knew the value of the institution, and of some new arrangements made by the committee, the financial state of the institution presents an improved aspect, which it is hoped its friends will continue to sustain. An eloquent and impressive sermon was delivered on the occasion, in the chapel, in Castle street, by the Rev. G. Smith, of Poplar, London.

RAMSGATE, KENT.—On the 11th inst., a neat and commodious chapel, invested in trust for the baptist denomination, was opened for divine worship. The Rev. Thomas Shirley, of Sevenoaks, preached in the morning; the Rev. William Garwood, minister of the chapel, in the afternoon; and the Rev. Philip Dickerson in the evening. The Rev. Messrs Gates and Reed took part in the devotional services.

SUSSEX.—The foundation stone of a new chapel at Watersfield, near Pelworth, was laid on the 18th inst., by Miss M. A. Ide, after which the Rev. James Edmonds, of Pelworth, preached from 1 Sam. vii. 12. The Rev. R. Gould assisted in the service and gave out the hymns. Twenty years ago two ladies, resident in this village, commenced a Sunday school, and have laboured in the cause with untiring zeal to the present time. The building then reared has been taken down, and a new one begun under encouraging prospects, the above ladies and their family bearing the expense.

STROUD.—The Rev. J. Burder, M.A., having resigned the pastorate of the church assembling at Bedford street, Stroud, the church and congregation, amidst expressions of deep regret and affection, presented him with a very elegant silver tea service and salver, as a token of their profound estimation of his personal and official worth. The Rev. W. Wheeler, late of Wells, Somerset, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation assembling at Bedford street, Stroud, and entered upon his pastorate among them on the 2nd inst.

BIRTHS.

July 10, the lady of the Rev. H. WILSON, of Kensington, of a daughter.
July 23, at Denmark hill, Mrs JOHN JAMES SMITH, of a son.

June 4, at Claremont, near Dry Harbour, St Ann's, Jamaica, the wife of the Rev. THOMAS HENRY CLARK, of a daughter.
July 17, the lady of the Rev. JESSE HOBSON, Barton Mills, Suffolk, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

July 13, at the Crescent chapel, Everton, by the Rev. J. Kelly, Mr PETER MONKS, of Liverpool, to Miss SARAH CHATER, of Clarence street, Everton.

July 19, at Surrey chapel, by the Rev. James Sherman, CHARLES BURLS, jun., Esq., of Bridge street, Blackfriars, to MARY GRANT, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. SHERMAN.

July 5, at the Baptist meeting-house, Kettering, by the Rev. T. Toller, Mr J. SPENCE, of Northampton, to Mrs H. HAWTHORN, of Kettering.

July 13, at Salem chapel, Wellingboro', by the Rev. S. Tomkins, A.M., THOMAS WILLS RUST, Esq., of Upper Clapton, to ANNA CLARISA, youngest daughter of Mr Wm HOBSON, of Wellingboro'.

July 18, at the College chapel, the Rev. H. LINGS, of Accrington, Lancashire, to CHARLOTTE, third daughter of the Rev. W. SCOTT, president of Alredale college. The marriage was solemnised by the father of the bride.

July 11, at Newton chapel, by license, by the Rev. J. Morton, the Rev. C. T. HARRIS, to ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of the late Joseph LEE, Esq., of Yew cottage.

July 18, at Glasgow, by the Rev. Dr Paterson, Mr JOHN DOULTON, jun., of Lambeth, to MARY, only daughter of Kenneth MATTHEWSON, Esq., of Glasgow.

July 19, at the Independent chapel, Ramsgate, by the Rev. H. J. Bevis, WILLIAM DANBY HUNTER, to SARAH PANKHURST HUDSON, both of Ramsgate.

July 20, at the Independent chapel, Guildford, by the Rev. S. Percy, Mr JOHN CLARKE, jun., to CAROLINE BALCHIN, both of Guildford.

July 22, at Finsbury chapel, by W. J. Fox, SINDAREY MILNES HAWKES, Esq., of the Middle Temple, B.L., to EMILIE, youngest daughter of W. H. ASHURST, Esq., of Muswell hill.

DEATHS.

July 12, at his seat, Rokeby park, Yorkshire, in his 74th year, JOHN BACON SOWREY MORRITT, Esq., the much esteemed friend of Sir Walter Scott, and at whose hospitable mansion, on the romantic banks of the Greta, Sir Walter spent many of his happiest days.

July 13, at Kent house, Knightsbridge, aged 37 years, the Hon. AUGUSTUS ALGERNON VILLIERS, B.N., brother to the Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P. for Wolverhampton.

July 6, after a short but severe illness, aged 64, ANN, widow of the late Rev. John JONES, independent minister, of Talgarth, Breconshire, leaving a family and a large circle of friends to lament the loss of an affectionate mother and faithful friend.

Lately, at Pimlico, in her 80th year, Mrs WILSON, the mother of the Rev. H. Wilson, of Kensington.

July 17, at Paris, WILLIAM BEVERLEY, Esq., late of Beverley, aged 79.

July 13, at his residence in George street, Plymouth, the Rev. J. G. KINSMAN. He had retired to rest as usual in the evening, when an affection of the heart, with which he had been afflicted for many years, seized him, and within an hour he was in eternity. His loss will be severely felt by many public institutions, and especially by the congregation of Princess Street chapel, of which he had been for a long time a member.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, July 21.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the 6th and 7th William IV, cap. 85:—
Rehoboth chapel, Brynmawr, Breconshire. T. Williams, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BERRY, THOMAS, Leves, Sussex, brewer.
DENT, JOHN, Burnley, Lancashire, grocer.
ELAM, ALFRED, 403, Oxford street, and ELAM, HENRY, Huddersfield, surgical instrument makers.

BANKRUPTS.

ANDREWS, HENRY, and TWINING, CHARLES, Peckham, Surrey, brewers: July 28, August 29: solicitor, Mr Roberts, 2, Bride court, Blackfriars.

EARDLEY, EDWARD, Exeter, china dealer, July 26, August 29: solicitors, Mr Brutton, Exeter, and Mr Clipperton, Bedford row, London.

ELLIS, HENRY, Norwich, draper, July 28, Sept. 16: solicitor, Mr W. H. Ashurst, 137, Cheapside, London.

GRAY, JOHN, Jarrow, Durham, timber merchant, August 1, Sept. 5: solicitors, Mr H. Ingledew, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray's inn, London.

HENDERSON, WILLIAM, and VESSEY, JAMES HENRY, Netham works, Gloucestershire, manufacturing chemists, July 31, August 31: solicitor, Mr Manning, Dyers' buildings, Holborn, London.

HEWITT, GEORGE, and HEWLETT, GEORGE, Manchester, woollen drapers, August 3, 30: solicitors, Messrs Makinson and Sanders, 3, Elm court, Middle Temple, London, and Messrs Atkinson and Saunders, Manchester.

JONES, THOMAS LLOYD, Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, surgeon, August 5, Sept. 16: solicitors, Mr W. Dean, 109, Guildford street, London, and Mr Bryant, Wimborne.

ORAM, JOHN, Chard, Somersetshire, lace manufacturer, August 3, 29: solicitors, Mr W. Dommett, Chard, Mr J. T. Church, Bedford row, London, and Mr J. H. Terrell, Exeter.

STARLING, JOSEPH, Southampton, hatter, July 29, Sept. 15: solicitor, Mr R. C. Smith, 27, Bridge street, Southwark.

WHITE, WILLIAM, jun., 175, Aldersgate street, City, chemist, July 28, August 29: solicitors Messrs Watson and Broughton, Falcon square.

Tuesday, July 25.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—
The Wesleyan Methodist association chapel, Manchester. Ner. Gardiner, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BRIDSON, ARTHUR, Dublin, Ireland, provision merchant.
WAREING, WILLIAM, Moulton, Northamptonshire, baker.

BANKRUPTS.

BARWISE, JACKSON, 16, Pall mall, house decorator, August 3, Sept. 4: solicitor, Mr Surr, Lombard street.

BROOMHEAD, WILLIAM, Birmingham and Sheffield, merchant, August 2, Sept. 5: solicitor, Mr James, Birmingham.

COWHERD, JOHN, Huggill, Westmoreland, miller, August 1, Sept. 5: solicitors, Mr Thomas Harrison, Kendal, Westmoreland; and Messrs Addison and Harrison, 8, Mecklenburg square, London.

EVERETT, FREDERICK PRIOR, Reading, Berkshire, draper, August 3, 31: solicitors, Messrs Tillard and Son, Old Jewry.

HEDDERLY, JOHN, Nottingham, druggist, Aug. 9, Sept. 9: solicitor, Mr Brewster, Nottingham.

HIPKINS, EDWARD, Egremont, Cheshire, coal dealer, and of Liverpool, commission agent, August 11, 31: solicitors, Messrs Bridger and Blake, 32, Finsbury circus, London; and Messrs Francis and Dodge, Liverpool.

LAUGHTON, ENDERBY, late of Wisbeach St Peter's, Cambridge-shire, brewer, August 3, Sept. 4: solicitors, Messrs Abbott and Co., 8, New inn.

PULLEN, WILLIAM, formerly of Trowbridge, Wiltshire, brewer, but now of Gloucester, licensed victualler, August 9, Sept. 6: solicitors, Messrs Jones and Blaxland, Crosby square, London; and Mr Hellings, and Messrs Mant and Harvey, Bath.

SPENCER, JOHN RUSSELL, late of Halsestead, Essex, tanner, August 1, 31: solicitor, Mr Dodd, 33, New Broad street.

WIDNELL, GEORGE FREDERICK, Edgeware road, stationer, August 1, 31: solicitor, Mr Shakle, Tokenhouse yard.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

MAY, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, carpet manufacturer, July 28, August 18.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds continue pretty steady, but there is not much business doing.

| | Wed. | Thur. | Fri. | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. |
|----------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| 3 per cent. Consols | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ |
| Ditto for Account | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ | 93½ |
| 3 per cent. Reduced | 94½ | 94½ | 94½ | 94½ | 94½ | 94½ |
| 3½ per cent. Reduced | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ |
| New 3½ per cent. | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ | 101½ |
| Long Annuities | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ |
| Bank Stock | 180 | 180 | 180 | 180 | 180 | 180 |
| India Stock | 261 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Exchequer Bills | 56pm | 56pm | 56pm | 57pm | 57pm | 57pm |
| India Bonds | — | 68pm | 66pm | 67pm | 67pm | 67pm |

FOREIGN FUNDS.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|
| Austrian | 112½ | Mexican | 30½ |
| Belgian | 104½ | Peruvian | 16½ |
| Brazilian | 74 | Portuguese 5 per cent | 39 |
| Buenos Ayres | — | Ditto 3 per cent | — |
| Columbian | 24 | Russian | 115 |
| Danish | — | Spanish Active | 18½ |
| Dutch 2½ per cent | 53½ | Ditto Passive | 44 |
| Ditto 3 per cent | 100½ | Ditto Deferred | 10½ |

RAILWAY SHARES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Birmingham and Derby | 57½ | London and Brighton | 32½ |
| Birmingham & Gloucester | 50 | London & Croydon Trunk | — |
| Blackwall | 4½ | London and Greenwich | 4 |
| Bristol and Exeter | 58½ | Ditto New | 16½ |
| Cheltenham & Gt. Western | 28 | Manchester & Birm. | 29½ |
| Eastern Counties | 9 | Manchester and Leeds | 78½ |
| Edinburgh and Glasgow | 50½ | Midland Counties | 67½ |
| Great North of England | 62 | Ditto Quarter Shares | 16½ |
| Great Western | 90 | North Midland | 72 |
| Ditto New | 66½ | Ditto New | — |
| Ditto Fifths | 16½ | South Eastern and Dover | 24 |
| London and Birmingham | 215 | South Western | 65½ |
| Ditto Quarter Shares | 53 | Ditto New | — |

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, July 24.

The supply of wheat from Essex and Kent was pretty good this morning, and sold readily at an advance of 4s. from this day's previous night. Foreign realised from 2s. to 3s. more, and bonded was taken at 2s. above last week.
Barley is 1s. to 2s. higher, with a short supply.
Peas are 1s. dearer, and beans support our currency.
Oats are a better sale, at 6d. to 1s. above last week's quotations.
Flour has risen 5s. per sack.

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Wheat, Red New | — to 56 | Malt, Ordinary | 49 to 59 |
| Fine | 60 to 62 | Pale | 54 to 58 |
| White | — to 57 | Peas, Hog | 29 to 33 |
| Fine | 60 to 67 | Maple | 30 to 33 |
| Rye | 34 to 37 | Boilers | 30 to 32 |
| Barley | 31 to 33 | Beans, Ticks | 24 to 26 |
| Malt | 32 to 35 | | |

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Beans, Pigeon | 29 to 32 | DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN. | |
| Harrow | 26 to 29 | Wheat | 20s. 0d. |
| Oats, Feed | 20 to 23 | Barley | 9 0 |
| Fine | — to 23 | Oats | 7 0 |
| Poland | 30 to 34 | Rye | 10 6 |
| Potato | 20 to 24 | Beans | 11 6 |
| | | Peas | 10 6 |

| | | | |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Wheat | 51s. 2d. | Wheat | 49s. 7d. |
| Barley | 29 0 | Barley | 27 11 |
| Oats | 19 8 | Oats | 19 1 |
| Rye | 31 11 | Rye | 31 4 |
| Beans | 29 6 | Beans | 29 0 |
| Peas | 32 4 | Peas | 31 0 |

SEEDS.

The weather being unfavourable for white cloverseed and trefoil, holders are demanding rather higher rates, and very little white cloverseed is offering; in red no alteration. There was a good supply of new rapeseed, and prices were lower. Caraway moved off slowly at our quotations. In canaryseed, &c., little passing.

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Linseed | per qr | Clover | per cwt |
| English, sowing | 50s. to 60s. | English, red | 36s. to 56s. |
| Baltic, ditto | — | Ditto, white | — |
| Ditto, crushing | 38 to 41 | Flemish, pale | 40 to 42 |
| Medit. & Odessa | 40 to 44 | Ditto, fine | 44 to 48 |
| Hempseed, small | 34 to 36 | New Hamb., red | — |
| Large | 36 to 38 | Ditto, fine | 50 to 62 |
| Canary, new | 70 to 72 | Old Hamb., red | 40 to 44 |
| Extra | 72 to 78 | Ditto, fine | 50 to 56 |
| Caraway, old | — | French, red | 40 to 48 |
| New | 42 to 44 | Ditto, white | — |
| Ryegrass, English | 20 to 25 | Coriander | 10 to 16 |
| Scotch | 12 to 21 | Old | 16 to 20 |
| Mustard | per bushel | Rapeseed | per ton |
| Brown, new | 9 to 11 | English, new | 30s. to 32s. |
| White | 9 to 10 6 | Linseed cakes | — |
| Trefoil | 18 to 26 | English | 9s. 10s. to 10s. 0s. |
| Old | 12 to 17 | Foreign | 5s. 10s. to 6s. 0s. |
| Tares, new | 3 to 4 | Rapeseed cakes | 5s. 5s. to 5s. 10s. |

PROVISIONS, LONDON, July 24.

Our market was dull all last week, and the business transacted limited. In Irish butter very little was done, on board or landed. The arrivals have much exceeded the demand, and caused a fall of 2s. per cwt on all descriptions. Foreign—the best Friesland still dull at 8s. to 8s. per cwt. Bacon has been sparingly dealt in, the weather being unfavourable to a good demand. Holders would take 1s. to 2s. less to facilitate sales. Hare and tierce middles, hams and lard, not in free request, at 1s. to 2s. per cwt reduction.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, July 24.

There is nothing doing in the hop market except for immediate wants, and prices are firm. The duty has advanced from £135,000 to £140,000, and as the accounts from Kent and Sussex are more favourable, it is backed rather freely. The grounds generally are clean, and the vines in a growing state.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, July 24.

Our market, on the whole, was moderately supplied with beasts. Although the attendance of both town and country buyers was rather numerous, the beef trade was not so brisk. Some of the very primest Scots were disposed of at an improvement on this day's previous night of 4d. per 8lbs., but the general rise did not exceed 2d. per 8lbs., at which a good clearance was effected. The number of sheep was not large, but fully adequate to meet the wants of the buyers. Lambs were again plentiful, yet they commanded a firm inquiry, and late figures were well supported, the best Down qualities producing 5s. per 8lbs. There was rather a scanty number of calves on offer. Prime small porkers sold freely; other kinds of pigs heavily, at unvaried prices. During the week, not a single head of foreign stock has been imported into the United Kingdom.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------|------|--------------------|
| Beef | 3s. 0d. to 4s. 3d. | Veal | 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. |
| Mutton | 3 2 to 4 4 | Pork | 3 0 to 4 0 |
| | | Lamb | 4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d. |

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

| | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------|------|
| Beasts | Sheep | Calves | Pigs |
| Friday 539 | 10,370 | 422 | 310 |
| Monday 2,434 | 29,960 | 207 | 321 |

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, July 24.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Per 8lbs. by the carcass. | | | |
| Inferior Beef 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. | Inf. Mutton | 3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d. | |
| Middling do 2 10 to 3 0 | Mid. ditto | 3 6 to 3 10 | |
| Prime large 3 0 to 3 4 | Prime ditto | 4 0 to 4 2 | |
| Prime small 3 6 to 3 8 | Veal | 3 6 to 4 6 | |
| Large Pork 3 0 to 3 6 | Small Pork | 3 8 to 4 0 | |
| Lamb | 4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d. | | |

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, July 24.

Scarcely any old potatoes are on offer, yet they command little attention. New potatoes are in great supply and steady demand at from 3s. to 6s. per cwt. From abroad only about 200 baskets have been received since our last, and they are worth scarcely 3s. per cwt.

WOOL.

As the arrivals of new wools increase, they afford the manufacturers a better assortment from which to select their purchases. Prices nominally remain without any variation.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, July 22.—At per load of 36 trusses.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Coarse Meadow | 80s. to 85s. | New Clover Hay | 100s. to 120s. |
| New ditto | 88 .. 93 | Old ditto | 56 .. 58 |
| Useful old ditto | 95 .. 100 | Oat Straw | 58 .. 60 |
| Fine Upland do | | Wheat Straw | |

COAL EXCHANGE, July 24.

Stewart's, 20s.; Hetton's, 20s.; Lambton's, 20s.; Hartlepool's, 20s. Ships arrived this week, 178.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JULY 25.

TEA.—Two hundred and nine chests of Congou, 628 chests, 273 half chests of Twankay, and 120 chests of Hyson, sold by auction at rather improved rates. Common Congou fetched 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d.; Twankay, 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 5½d.; Hyson, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 11½d. per lb.

COFFEE.—There were not any public sales. By private contract the transactions were very small, and prices have not improved.

SUGAR.—The public sales consisted of 150 hogsheads Barbadoes, which sold at 59s. 6d. to 64s. 6d., and 250 hogsheads St. Lucia, which fetched 57s. to 63s. 6d. per cwt. Prices are 6d. to 1s. lower. Refined sugars are also lower; brown grocery are offered at 75s., and standard lumps at 76s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

GRAVESEND.

THE NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, WINDMILL-STREET, will (by Divine permission) be OPENED on TUESDAY, AUGUST 1st, when THREE SERMONS will be preached, and Collections made after each Service. In the morning, by the Rev. Dr COX; Afternoon, the Rev. W. B. BOWES; Evening, the Rev. Dr STEANE. Services commence at Eleven, Three, and Half-past Six.

There will also be a PRAYER-MEETING at Seven in the Morning.

A cold Dinner and Tea will be provided at moderate charges. Boats leave Hungerford Market, London-bridge, and Blackwall, in time for the Morning service. The first boat from London-bridge is at Eight, and Blackwall a Quarter before Nine.

In making known this pleasing termination of their labours, the Building Committee beg to state, that their funds were more than exhausted in making the second payment, and that the builder is entitled to another £500 the day after the opening, and £600 more, the residue, before Christmas. If each friend who attends the opening will kindly contribute a Sovereign, or, where this may not be convenient, Half-a-Sovereign, this £500 may easily be raised, and the minds of the Committee relieved from much anxiety.

The Trustees have appointed a Committee of Management for the first three months, who will provide suitable supplies from London and the vicinity, let sittings, and conduct the concerns of the new interest on their behalf, and they respectfully urge upon friends (resident or visiting) the desirableness of engaging sittings (Quarterly or Monthly), as a means of support and encouragement peculiarly needed until a Congregation be obtained, and a Church formed capable of supporting a suitable Pastor, and carrying on the cause of God there.

The Rev. J. MORTLOCK DANIELL, of Ramsgate, has kindly engaged to supply the first Sabbath.

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Committee of Management, Messrs Arnold, Allingham, Cartwright, Elliott, Merrett, Miles, Pepper, Stanger, or Woolley.

Baptist or other Christian friends, seeking temporary or permanent change of residence, and not confined to any particular locality, will greatly help this cause by adopting Gravesend as their place of removal, and Zion Chapel as their place of worship.

This day is published, 8vo, price 2s. 6d.,

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|---|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
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She cannot omit this opportunity of expressing her gratitude to those friends whose kindness procured so extended a circulation of the former part; and she now sends forth the remainder with the hope and prayer, that He who accepts "according to what a man hath, and not according to what he hath not," will again vouchsafe his blessing.

June 1, 1843.
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